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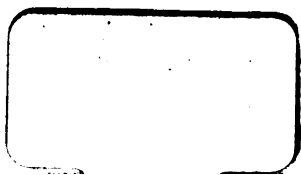
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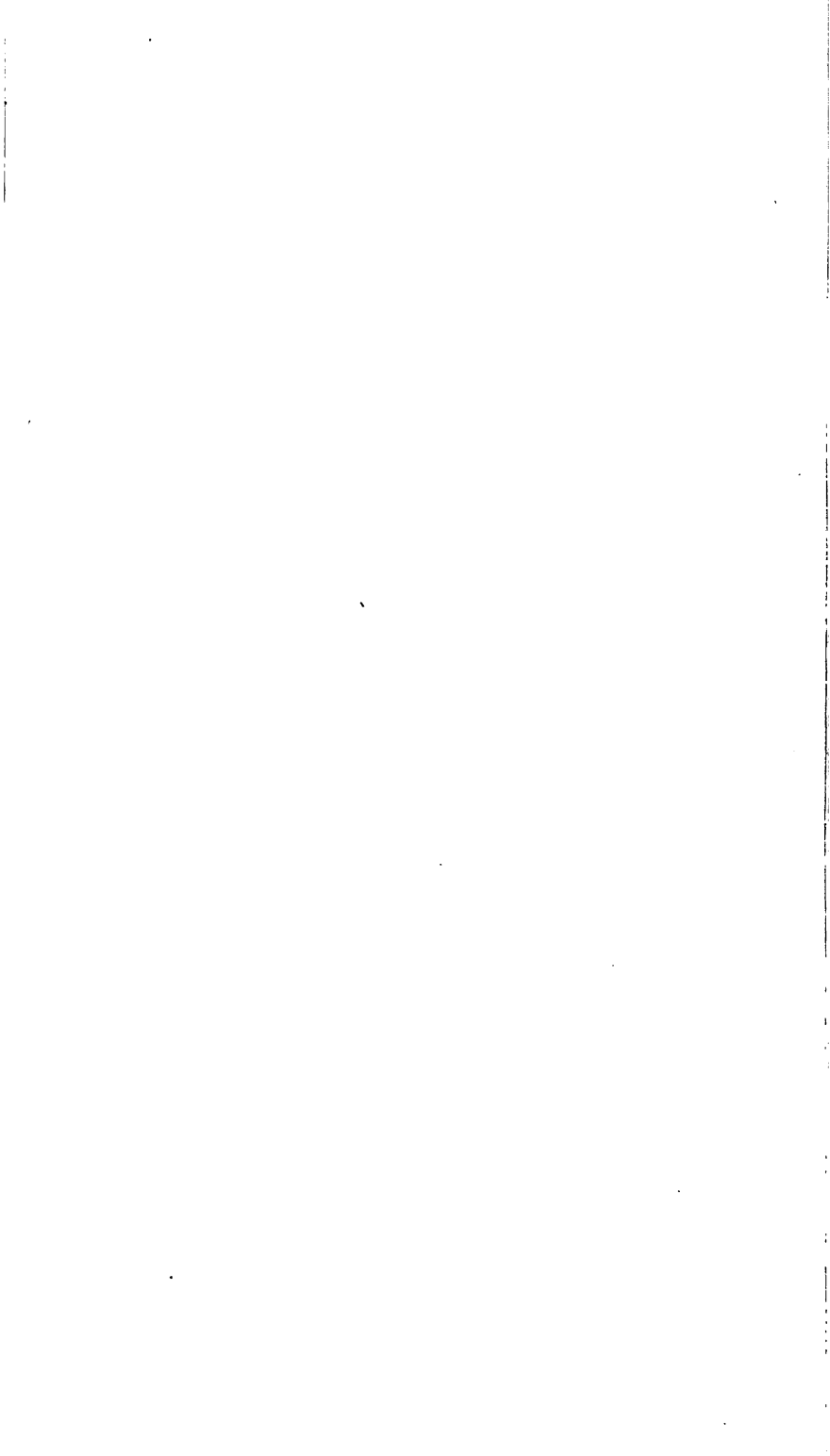
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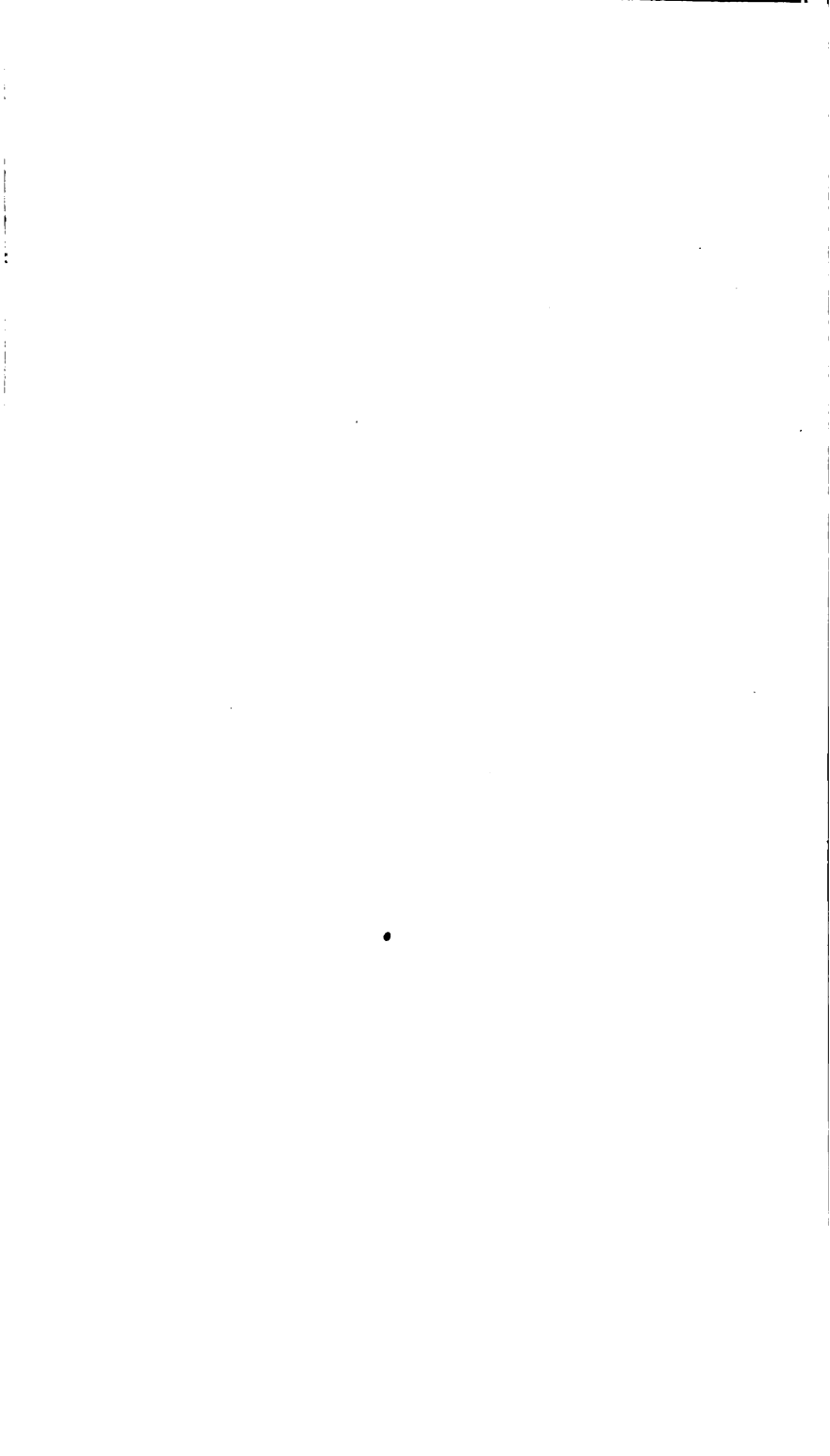
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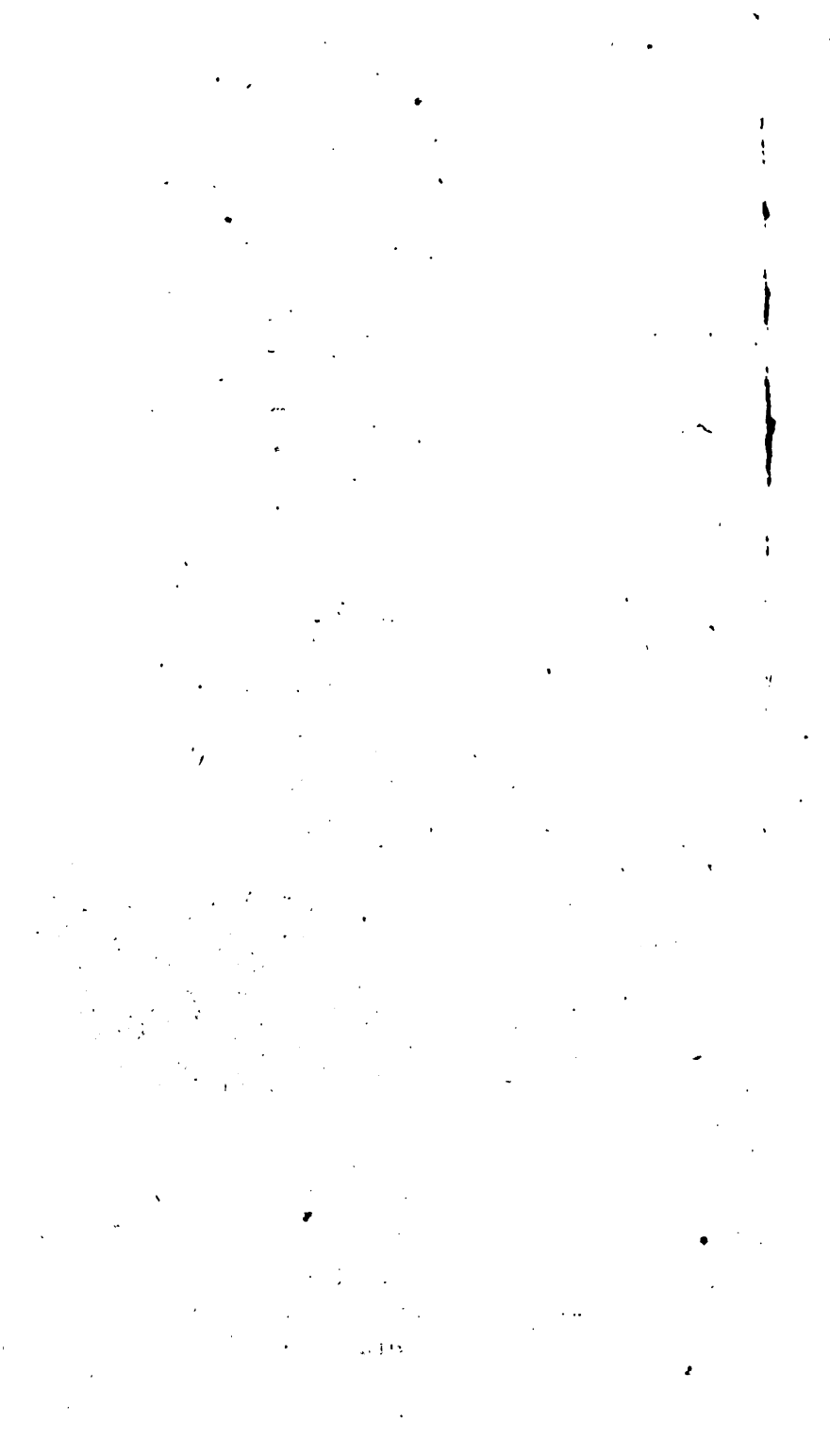
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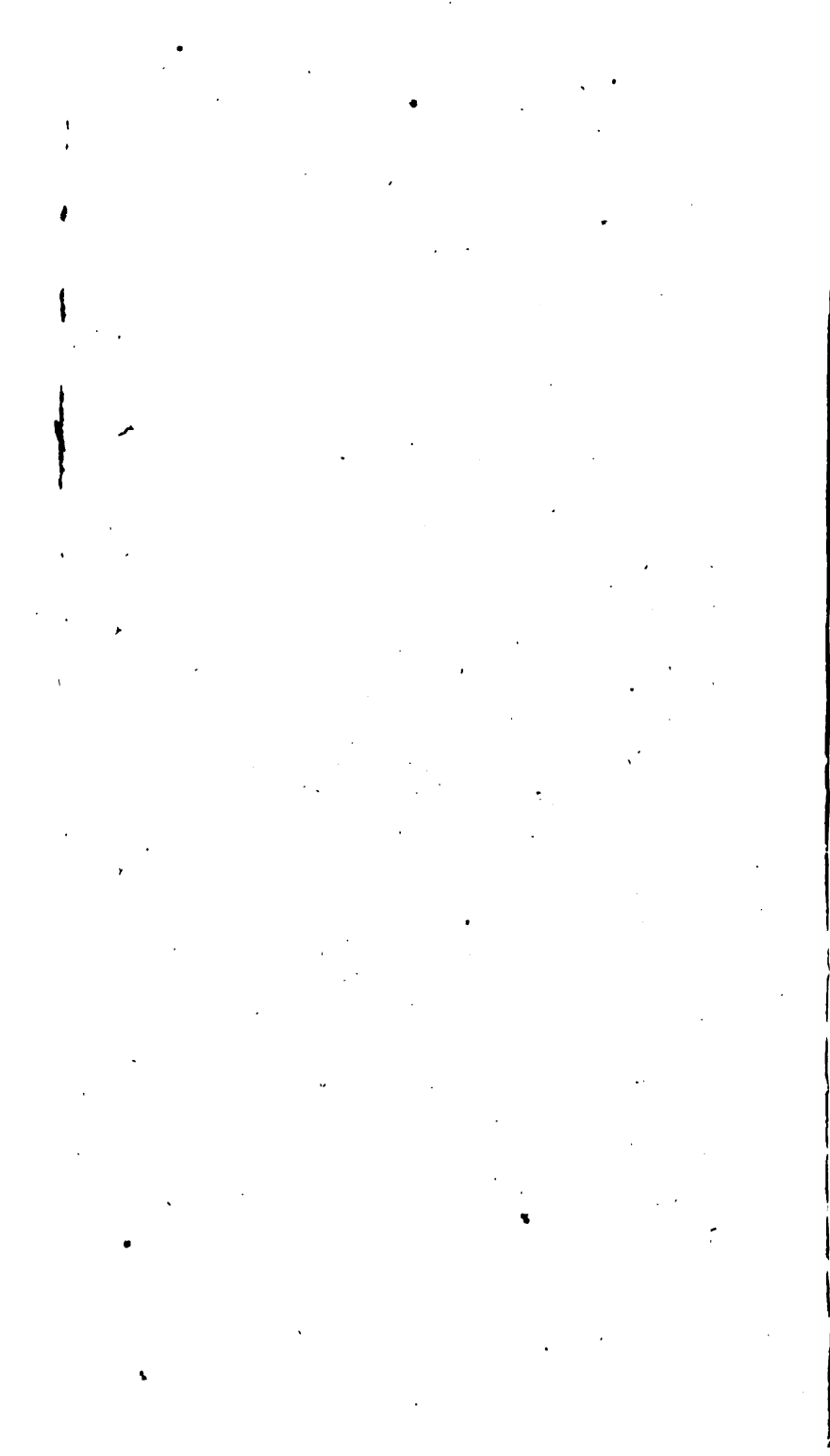


Engraved by J. Thomson from a Drawing by J. Partridge

Her late Majesty
QUEEN CHARLOTTE.

Published Dec. 2. 1828. by T. Kinnorsley, Kingsland Road.





MEMOIRS
of Her late
Majesty
QUEEN CHARLOTTE.



Britannia lamenting the loss of Her Majesty & History recording Her Memoirs.

L O N D O N

Published Dec^r 1. 1818 by T. Kinnerly Kingsland Road.

1819.

AUTHENTIC AND IMPARTIAL
MEMOIRS
OF
HER LATE MAJESTY,
CHARLOTTE,
QUEEN OF GREAT BRITAIN AND IRELAND,
CONTAINING
A faithful Retrospect
OF
HER EARLY DAYS, HER MARRIAGE, CORONATION,
CORRESPONDENCE, ILLNESS,
Death, Funeral Obsequies,
&c. &c.
INTERSPERSED WITH
OCCASIONAL ANECDOTES
OF THE
Royal Family, and other Illustrious Personages.
INCLUDING VARIOUS
INTERESTING AND ORIGINAL PARTICULARS,
NEVER BEFORE PUBLISHED.

BY ^{OF} **W. C. OULTON, Esq.**
ASSISTED BY EMINENT LITERARY CHARACTERS.

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PREFATORY REMARKS.

THE illustrious subject of this Memoir, was, in the meridian of her life, the idol of the people :—When a PRINCESS, the rectitude of her conduct, the fame of her accomplishments, and the suavity of her manners, raised her to the Throne of England :—When a QUEEN, her piety, her patronage of charitable institutions, and particularly her regard for His Majesty, were themes of admiration : and when a MOTHER, her maternal affection could only be equalled by her conjugal love. After a reign of full FIFTY SEVEN years, her Majesty seemed to *outlive* those people by whom she was thus idolized, and it must be acknowledged that her popularity considerably declined previous to her decease.

It is the duty of a Biographer to adhere to facts, and not to "set down aught in malice" for the purpose of gratifying a capricious taste ; he should also "nothing extenuate," for extravagant panegyric is as reprehensible as malicious invective. By a minute and impartial investigation of her late Majesty's life, we shall endeavour to ascertain the causes of the gradual declension of her popularity : the first, indeed, appears to be avarice (which is certainly unworthy of royalty,) but we shall leave the candid reader of this Memoir to judge whether her Majesty's attachment to wealth was so insatiable as reported, and if so, whether it was not the infirmity of old age, when the ordinary pleasures of life could no longer be enjoyed. Indeed, many are inclined to think that some of her Majesty's *good* actions were for the sake of *saving expences*, and to this motive has even been ascribed the circumstance of her NURSING HER OWN CHILDREN, for which she was then held out as a pattern to ALL mothers!—By a review of her early days this laudable act must

be ascribed to its true source—a domestic disposition.

The next cause was her Majesty's prohibition of the PRINCESS OF WALES from Court, and the last (which, being a recent one, dwells most forcibly on the minds of the public) was her apparent neglect of her beloved grand-daughter, the PRINCESS CHARLOTTE, it being the general opinion that her Majesty's journey to Bath, about the time of her Royal Highness's accouchment (the fatal termination of which was so deeply and universally regretted) was ill-timed, if not unfeeling: on this momentous point public curiosity shall be fully satisfied.

The skilful artist who undertakes the likeness of an individual, faithfully portrays all the defects as well as the beauties of the countenance—the Biographer's PICTURE should be equally accurate—he should delineate all the blemishes as well as the virtues of the deceased, “and then let justice weigh the scale.” Be

it observed, that the Great are more subject to the shafts of criticism than the humble—what are deemed trifling *motes* in the latter, are frequently magnified to *beams* in the former: and be it also remembered that a QUEEN is but—a *Woman*——the great *Elizabeth* was not immaculate; and “setting Nature’s common frailties aside” Queen CHARLOTTE’S reign has been long and prosperous.



MEMOIRS,

&c. &c.

HER Serene Highness Sophia Charlotte of Mecklenburg Strelitz, the late Queen of England, was born May 16, O. S. (May 19) 1744. The country of Mecklenburg, which is about one hundred and twenty miles in length, and thirty in breadth, is bounded on the North by the Baltic Sea; by Brandenburg on the east; by Lunenburg and Brandenburg on the south, and by Holstein on the west. Its ancient inhabitants were the famous Vandals, who made so great a bustle in Europe that, at length, they had their kingdom reduced to this duchy, by the Knights of the Teutonic Order, the Poles, and the Brandenburgers. They formed it into a powerful kingdom, and preserved its title and dignity till 1163, when the title of the King of the Vandals was extinguished, and that of the Prince of Mecklenburg substituted in its stead. However, in 1349, the Prince of Mecklenburg, as he was called, was created a

Duke, and made a Prince of the Empire. The ladies of Mecklenburg had been long famous for their patriotism. In the year 1395, in order to support their Duke Albert's pretensions to the crown of Sweden, and to redeem him when he was taken prisoner, they gave up all their jewels to the public, for which they afterwards received great emoluments and privileges, particularly the right of succession in fiefs, which had before been appropriated to males only.

The branch of Strelitz is the second branch of the house of Mecklenburg, whose duke was one of the secular princes of the empire, who took his seat in the diet of Ratzelburg. It is the head of a small but sovereign state in the north-west of Germany, and was anciently divided into several independent states. The dukes, who were made governors of those provinces, claimed a right to sovereignty. Her Serene Highness was the youngest daughter of Charles Lewis, brother to Frederick, the third Duke of Mecklenburg. Her father, though in the immediate line of inheritance, as his brother, the reigning duke, had no issue, and was unmarried, did not succeed to the principality; he died before his brother, and thus, upon the death of Frederick, the succession devolved upon his nephew, Adolphus Frederick the Fourth, brother to Sophia Charlotte. He was born May 4, 1738, and had another sister, Christina Sophia Albertina, born Dec. 6, 1735, and three brothers, Charles Lewis Frederick, (who, in 1761, was a

lieutenant-colonel in the Hanoverian foot guards,) born Dec. 10, 1741, Ernest Gottlob Albert, born Aug. 27, 1742, and George Augustus, born Aug. 3, 1748. The mother of this illustrious family, who died a little before Queen Charlotte's marriage, was the Princess Albertina Elizabeth, born Aug. 3, 1713, the daughter of Ernest Frederick, duke of Saxe-Hildburghausen. The annual revenue of the Duke of Strelitz then amounted to 15,000*l.* besides his domain. The country is fruitful but unhealthy, and excessively cold in winter.

Her Serene Highness had a liberal education; for Germany boasted then, as it does now, of several literary characters. She was particularly fond of Natural History, Botany, &c. and became a great proficient in Music. She made an early progress in the French, Italian, and English languages; but her chief delight was needle-work. It ought to be observed, that the princesses of these provinces were not above domestic duties, and Princess Charlotte never seemed so happy, as when engaged in household affairs; she was particularly economical and industrious, and these qualities, it seems, the splendour of a court could not extirpate.

Having followed Her Serene Highness thus far, it will now be proper for us to give a review of the circumstances which caused her happy union with His Majesty.

On the accession of George III. to the throne, it was conceived an object of state policy, that

a suitable marriage should take place with all the expedition which the importance and nature of the matter would admit of.

It was at this time well known that His Majesty had a particular attachment to Lady Sarah Lenox, sister to the Duke of Richmond. This passion, it was likewise acknowledged originated with Mr. Fox, afterwards Lord Holland, but it only served to hasten the designs of the Princess Dowager of Wales and the Earl of Bute to bring about the Royal Marriage. It was generally believed that the Princess Dowager wished to introduce a niece of her own, or some Princess of the family of Saxe Gotha, but this wish was over-ruled by the Cabinet from a belief that the house of Saxe Gotha was afflicted with a constitutional disease. In consequence of this, it was confidently asserted that Lord Bute deputed Colonel Græme to visit the German states, and select a Princess worthy of being the future Queen of England. His instructions on this important mission were, that she should be perfect in her form, of a pure blood, and healthy constitution, possessed of elegant accomplishments, particularly music, (to which the King was extremely partial,) and of a mild and obliging disposition.

The final determination of his Majesty was, in all probability, very much accelerated by a perusal of her letter to the King of Prussia, which contained a more faithful delineation of her character than any observer could describe, or painter

pourtray. It has been doubted whether this letter was the production of Her Serene Highness, on account of her youth, but notwithstanding it has no date, it bears her name, and it should also be recollected that the war in Germany was continued when George III. came to the throne, for which the young King gave the following reasons in his *first* speech to Parliament :

“ In Germany, where the whole French force has been employed, the combined army, under the wise and able conduct of my General, Prince Ferdinand of Brunswick, has not only stopped their progress, but has gained advantages over them, notwithstanding their boasted superiority, and their not having hitherto come to a general engagement.

“ My good brother and ally the king of Prussia, although surrounded with numerous armies of enemies, has, with a magnanimity and perseverance almost beyond example, not only withstood their various attacks, but has obtained very considerable victories over them.”

Her Serene Highness Princess Charlotte, alarmed at the entrance of the King of Prussia into her cousin's territories, addressed to that monarch, the letter before alluded to, of which the following is a copy :

“ May it please your Majesty,

“ I am at a loss whether I should congratulate or condole with you on your late victory ; since the same success that has covered you with laurels, has overspread the country of Mecklenburg with deso-

lation. I know, Sire, that it seems unbecoming my sex, in this age of vicious refinement, to feel for one's country, to lament the horrors of war, or wish for the return of peace. I know you may think it more properly my province to study the arts of pleasing, or to turn my thoughts to subjects of a more domestic nature ; but however unbecoming it may be in me, I cannot resist the desire of interceding for this unhappy people.

“ It was but a very few years ago, that this territory wore the most pleasing appearance. The country was cultivated ; the peasant looked cheerful ; and the towns abounded with riches and festivity. What an alteration at present from such a charming scene ! I am not expert at description, nor can my fancy add any horrors to the picture : but sure even conquerors themselves would weep at the hideous prospect now before me. The whole country, my dear country, lies one frightful waste, presenting only objects to excite terror, pity, and despair ! The business of the husbandman and the shepherd is quite discontinued : the husbandman and the shepherd are become soldiers themselves, and help to ravage the soil they formerly occupied. The towns are inhabited only by old men, women, and children ; perhaps here and there a warrior, by wounds or loss of limbs rendered unfit for service, left at his door ; his little children hang round him, ask an history of every wound, and grow themselves soldiers before they find strength for the field.

“ But this were nothing, did we not feel the

alternate insolence of either army as it happens to advance or retreat. It is impossible to express the confusion, which even those, who call themselves our friends, create. Even those, from whom we might expect redress, oppress us with new calamities. From your justice therefore it is that we hope relief: to you even children and women may complain, whose humanity stoops to the meanest petition, and whose power is capable of repressing the greatest injustice.

“ I am, Sire, &c.

Astonished at, and delighted with, the good sense and patriotism of so young a Princess, the King of Prussia immediately transmitted the letter to his ally George III., and the young King being equally pleased with the language of the fair writer, privately employed some persons, in whom he could confide, (particularly Colonel Græme, before mentioned) to ascertain whether the manners of this princess corresponded with her sentiments. It has been asserted that the Colonel found the reigning Princess of Strelitz taking the waters at Pyrmont, accompanied by her two daughters, with little or no appearance of parade, and where, from the freedom of communication usual at those places, and the ready means of observation, it was no difficult matter to become fully acquainted with their characters, and daily habits. Their Serene Highnesses frequented the rooms, the walks, and partook of the amusements, without any distinction that could prevent Colonel Græme from being

an unsuspected attendant on their parties. Having made favourable reports to His Majesty of her Serene Highness's amiable disposition and accomplishments, the king contemplated with pleasure her portrait, which was purposely executed by an eminent artist, and instantly resolved to make a formal demand of the original in marriage. As his Majesty could not espouse a Roman Catholic, he was prevented from intermarrying into any of the great families of Europe, and on the 8th of July he made the following declaration of his sentiments at a very full meeting of the privy council.

“ Having nothing so much at heart as to procure the welfare and happiness of my people, and to render the same stable and permanent to posterity, I have, ever since my accession to the throne, turned my thoughts towards the choice of a princess for my consort; and I now, with great satisfaction, acquaint you, that after the fullest information, and mature deliberation, I am come to a resolution to demand in marriage the princess Charlotte of Mecklenburg Strelitz, a princess distinguished by every eminent virtue and amiable endowment, whose illustrious line has constantly shewn the firmest zeal for the protestant religion, and a particular attachment to my family.

“ I have judged proper to communicate to you these my intentions, in order that you may be fully apprised of a matter so highly important to me, and to my kingdoms, and which, I persuade myself, will be most acceptable to all my loving subjects.”

The council were so pleased with his Majesty's declaration that they unanimously requested it might be made public. Proper steps were then taken for the accomplishment of his majesty's wishes. The earl of Harcourt was fixed upon to go out as ambassador plenipotentiary, to make the demand of her Serene Highness; the duchesses of Ancaster and Hamilton, and the countess of Effingham, three of the finest women of the British court, were appointed ladies of the bed-chamber to take care of her person; and the Carolina yacht, being newly named the Charlotte, was got in readiness to convey her to England, under convoy of a squadron commanded by Lord Anson.

The fleet put to sea the eighth of August; and on the fourteenth, Lord Harcourt and the other lords and ladies sent on this embassy arrived at Strelitz. On Lord Harcourt's introduction the next morning to her Serene Highness, she was at needlework; but by no means ashamed of her industry, for she still retained it in her hand, and yet received his lordship with extreme courtesy. It has been asserted that she was darning a pair of stockings, which is not improbable when we consider the then distracted state of her country, and her attachment to domestic duties. The ceremony of asking her Serene Highness in marriage for the King of England was now performed, the contract signed, and the noble lord having been proxy for his Majesty, the marriage was celebrated; after which she was complimented by the

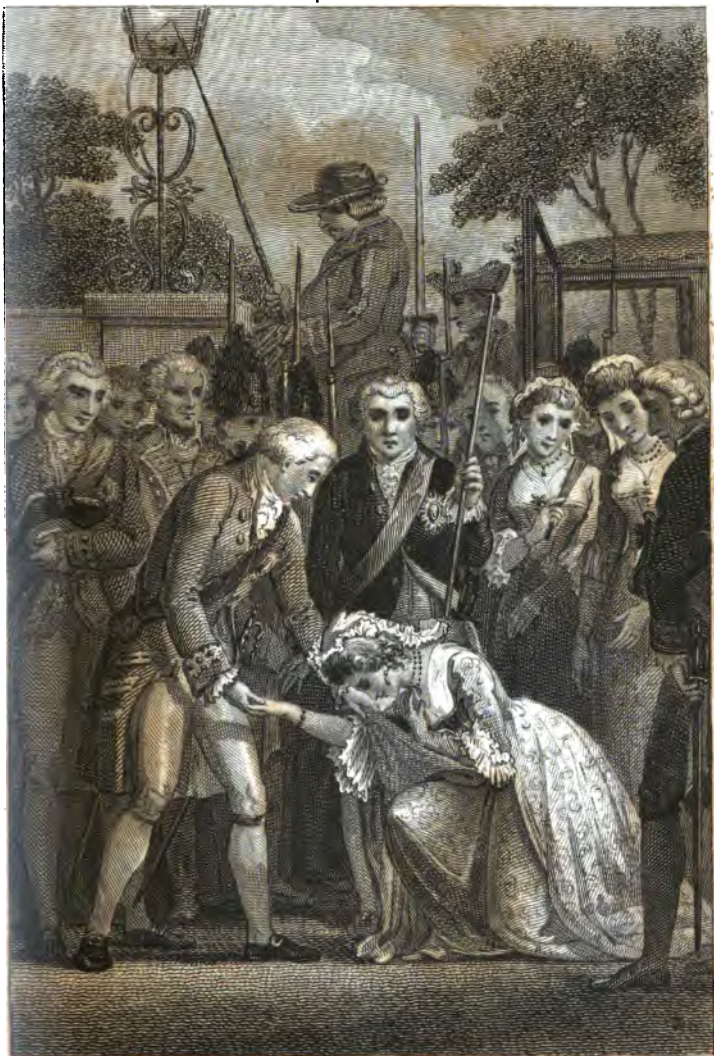
states of the country and the deputies of the towns. The ambassador and his suite were magnificently entertained; and the event was celebrated with the most splendid rejoicings.

On the seventeenth the princess, accompanied by the reigning duke her brother, set out with all her attendants for Mirow, and proceeded to Perleberg, where she was complimented by the Count de Gotter, in the name of his Prussian majesty. From thence she continued her journey to Leutzen and Ghorde; and on the twenty second arrived at Stade, under a general discharge of cannon, and amidst the acclamations of a vast number of people. The streets, through which she passed, were lined with the burgesses under arms; some of the principal ladies of the place presented her with verses on her approaching nuptials; the town was illuminated at night; and several triumphal arches were erected, on which were placed many small lamps and inscriptions analogous to the occasion. Next day she embarked in the yacht at Cuxhaven, where she was saluted by the whole squadron destined for her convoy. The ships were ranged on each side of the yacht. The moment she entered her cabin, she saluted the officers of the different ships, who had crowded the decks in order to have the pleasure of seeing her, and were all charmed with her affable and polite behaviour. On the 28th the fleet put to sea, but as no dispatches were received from it, from that time till its arrival at Harwich, the Court was in some concern lest the tediousness of

her voyage might affect the health of Her Highness; besides, the day fixed for the coronation of His Majesty, by a proclamation, was drawing near, and his Majesty was desirous that the ceremony of the nuptials might precede that of the coronation, so that fresh instructions, it is said, were dispatched to Lord Anson to sail at all events, and land his charge at any of the ports of Great Britain where it could be done with safety. At length, after three different storms, and being often in sight of the English coast, and in danger of being driven on that of Norway, Her Serene Highness arrived at Harwich on the sixth of September. She did not appear the least affected by the tediousness of her passage: on the contrary, she continued all the time in good health and spirits, and frequently played on the harpsichord, practising English tunes for the purpose of gratifying the taste of her new subjects. It being night when the fleet arrived at Harwich, she slept on board, and remained there till three in the afternoon next day, during which time her route was settled, and instructions were received as to her manner of proceeding to St. James's.

As soon as her Serene Highness landed, she was met by the Mayor and Aldermen of the town, who were eager to testify their joy and respect. She set off thence by the way of Colchester to Witham, where she arrived at a quarter past seven in the evening, and stopped at the Earl of Abercorn's, who had provided for her as elegant an entertainment as

the time would admit. During supper, the door of the room was ordered to stand open, that every body might have the pleasure of seeing her highness. She slept that night at his lordship's house, and the following day about noon she came to Runford, where she found the king's coaches ready to receive her and her attendants, with a party of the horse-guards, to conduct her to London. On the road, she behaved in the most courteous manner to a continual succession of spectators, placing herself so as to afford them the fullest view, and politely bowing in return to their joyful acclamations. As soon as the carriages reached Mile-end, they turned off to Hackney turnpike; then passing by Shoreditch church and across Islington, they proceeded along the new road into Hyde-park, and down Constitution hill to the garden gate of St. James's palace; where her highness was handed out of the coach by the Duke of Devonshire, in quality of lord chamberlain. At the gate, she was received by the Duke of York; and in the garden she was met by the king himself, who in a very affectionate manner raised her up by the hand, which he kissed, as she was going to pay her obeisance, and then led her up stairs into the palace, where she dined with his Majesty, the princess dowager, and the rest of the royal family. At nine o'clock in the evening of the eighth of September the nuptial ceremony was performed by the Archbishop of Canterbury in the royal chapel, which had been magnificently decorated for the purpose. Besides the royal



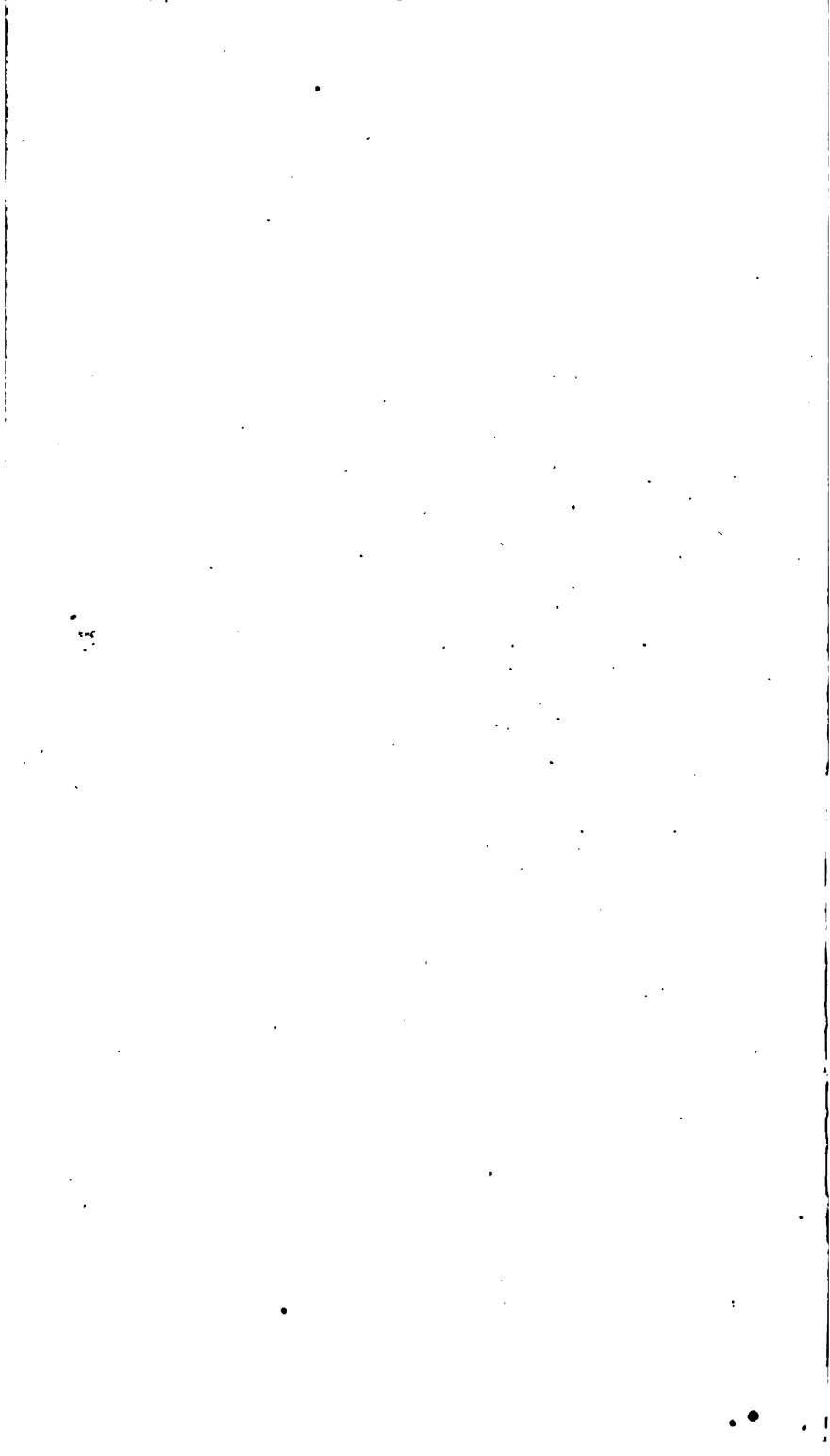
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OULTON'S MEMOIRS OF QUEEN CHARLOTTE.

THE FIRST INTERVIEW BETWEEN THEIR MAJESTIES.

*Pub^d Jan^y 1. 1819. by T. Kennerley Kingsland Road
LONDON*



family, all the great officers of state, the foreign ministers, and a considerable number of the nobility, were present at the service, the conclusion of which was announced to the people by the discharge of the artillery in the Park and at the Tower. The cities of London and Westminster were illuminated in honour of the auspicious event. The levee next day to compliment their Majesties was the most numerous and brilliant that had ever been seen in this country : addresses of felicitation poured in from all parts of the British dominions ; and the whole kingdom, as well as the court, exhibited for some time nothing but scenes of splendor and festivity.

The following was the address of the Lord-Mayor, Aldermen, and Common-Council of the City of London, to his Majesty on the occasion :

“ Be pleased, most gracious Sovereign, to accept the cordial and respectful congratulations of your Majesty’s ever dutiful and loyal subjects, the Lord Mayor, Aldermen, and Commons of the City of London, in Common Council assembled, on the solemnization of your Majesty’s most auspicious nuptials.

“ Warmly interested, from every motive of gratitude, as well as duty, in whatever can affect your royal mind, we enjoy the highest satisfaction in the completion of our wishes, by your Majesty’s happy union with a Princess of the most exalted merit ; a Princess, who, by her descent from an illustrious lineage, (respectable for their firm and

constant zeal for the protestant religion, and dear to us for their particular attachment to your Majesty's royal house) and above all by her own most eminent virtues and amiable endowments, was most worthy to engage your Majesty's esteem and affection, and to share the honour of the British crown.

"We adore the divine goodness, that, as in all your Majesty's other conduct, so more particularly in a choice of the highest importance to your Majesty, and to your kingdoms, has so visibly guided and inspired your royal breast. A choice, in which we thankfully acknowledge the strongest and most acceptable proof of your Majesty's paternal attention to improve the happiness and security of your people, and to render the same stable and permanent to posterity.

"May the same providence long preserve your Majesty and your royal consort, to enjoy the fruits of this blessed marriage in an uninterrupted course of conjugal felicity, and in a numerous offspring, resembling their illustrious parents, in every public as well as private virtue. And may the imperial crown of these realms be worn with undiminished lustre by their descendants till time shall be no more."

To this Address his Majesty returned the following answer;

"I thank you most heartily for your dutiful and affectionate address. This fresh mark of your attachment to my person, and particularly the

warm sentiments of joy and satisfaction which you express on the happy choice I have made of a queen for my consort, are most pleasing to me. The city of London may always depend on my unceasing care for their welfare and prosperity."

The following was the Address of the Lord-Mayor, &c. to her Majesty.

" Most gracious Queen.

" We, his Majesty's ever dutiful and loyal subjects, the Lord Mayor, Aldermen, and Commons of the City of London, in Common Council assembled, humbly beg leave to express, in your royal presence, the exceeding great joy we feel at your Majesty's safe arrival, so ardently wished for, and so impatiently expected ; and at the same time to congratulate your Majesty's most happy nuptials with a monarch, whose early wisdom, fortitude, and piety, add lustre to the diadem he wears, and render him the darling, as well as father, of his people.

" We do, with the honest warmth and sincerity which characterize the British nation, humbly assure your Majesty, that as the many virtues and amiable endowments which your Majesty possesses in so eminent a degree, cannot fail to bless our beloved Sovereign with every domestic happiness ; so will they ever endear your Majesty to a people, not more distinguished for their love of liberty and country, than for their inviolable loyalty and gratitude to those princes from whom they derive protection and prosperity,

“ Long may your Majesty live to share the felicity you are formed to inspire. And may your Majesty prove the happy mother of a race of princes, to transmit the glories of this distinguished reign, to the latest of our posterity.”

To this Address her Majesty returned the following answer :

“ I thank you for your kind congratulations, so full of duty to the King and affection to me. My warmest wishes will ever attend this great city.”

Her Majesty was addressed by many of the poets of the day ; particularly by Thomas Warton, M. A. Fellow of Trinity College and Professor of Poetry, in the following lines :

When first the kingdom, to thy virtues due,
Rose from the billowy deep in distant view :
When Albion's isles, old Ocean's peerless pride,
Tower'd in imperial state above the tide ;
What bright ideas of the new domain
Form'd the fair prospect of thy promised reign :
And well with conscious pride thy breast might beat,
That Albion was ordain'd thy regal seat.
Lo ! this the land where freedom's sacred rage
Has glow'd unstained through many a martial age.
Here patriot Alfred, stain'd with Danish blood
Rear'd on one base the king's, the people's good ;
Here Henry's archers framed the stubborn bow
That laid Alonzo's haughty helmet low ;
Here waked the flame that still superior braves
The proudest threats of Gaul's ambitious slaves,
Here chivalry, stern school of valour old,
Her noblest feats of Knightly fame enroll'd ;

Heroic champions heard the clarion's call,
 And throng'd the board in Edward's banner'd hall;
 While chiefs like George, approved in worth alone,
 Unlock'd chaste beauty's adamant zone.
 Lo! the famed isle which hails thy chosen sway,
 What fertile fields her temperate sons display!
 Where property secures the conscious swain,
 And guards, while plenty gives, the golden grain;
 Hence ripe with stores her villages abound,
 Her airy downs with scatter'd sheep resound;
 Fresh are her pastures with unceasing rills,
 And future navies crown her darksome hills.
 To bear her formidable glory far,
 Behold her opulence of hoarded war!
 See, from her ports a thousand banners stream,
 On every coast her vengeful lightnings gleam.
 Meantime, remote from ruin's armed hand,
 In peaceful majesty her cities stand;
 Whose splendid domes and tradeful streets declare
 Their firmest post—a King's parental care.

And oh! blest Queen, if, ere the magic pow'rs
 Of warbled truth have won thy musing hours,
 Here poesy, from awful days of yore,
 Has pour'd her genuine gifts of raptured lore.
 Mid oaken bow'rs, with holy verdure wreath'd,
 In druid songs her solemn spirit breath'd:
 While cunning bards, at ancient banquets, sung
 Of painim foes defied, and trophies hung:
 Here Spencer tuned his mystic minstrelsy,
 And dress'd in fairy robes a Queen like thee.
 Here, boldly mark'd with every living hue,
 Nature's unbounded portrait Shakespeare drew;
 But chief, the dreadful group of human woes
 The daring artist's tragic pencil chose;
 Explored the pangs that rend the royal breast,
 Those wounds that lurk beneath the tissued vest.

Lo ! this the land where Milton's muse of fire
 High soar'd to steal from Heav'n a seraph's lyre,
 And told the golden ties of wedded love
 In sacred Eden's amaranthine grove.
 Thine too, majestic bride, the favor'd clime
 Where science sits enshrin'd in roofs sublime.
 O mark how green her wood of ancient bays
 O'er Isis' marge in many a chaplet strays ;
 Thither, if haply some distinguish'd flow'r
 Of these mix'd blooms from that ambrosial bow'r
 Might catch thy glance, and, rich in Nature's hue,
 Entwine thy diadem with honour due :
 If seemly gifts the train of Phœbus pay
 To deck imperial Hymen's festive day ;
 Thither thyself shalt haste and mildly deign
 To tread with nymph-like step the conscious plain ;
 Pleas'd in the Muse's nook, with decent pride,
 To throw the sceptred pall of state aside ;
 Nor from the shade shall GEORGE be long away,
 Which charms CHARLOTTA's love and courts her stay.

'These are Britannia's praises. Deign to trace,
 With soft reflection Freedom's favourite race,
 But tho' the generous isle in arts and arms
 Thus stands supreme, in Nature's choicest charms ;
 Tho' George and Conquest guard her sea-girt throne,
 One happier blessing still she calls her own ;
 And, proud a fresh increase of fame to view,
 Crowns all her glory by possessing you."

The then poet-laureat, William Whitehead, concluded his first Ode for his Majesty's Birth-day, (1762) with the following verse :

Oh ! goddess of connubial love,
 Thou sister and thou wife of Jove,
 To thee the suppliant voice we raise !
 We name not months, we name not days,

For, where thy smiles propitious shine,
The whole prolific year is thine.

Accordant to the trembling strings,
Hark, the general chorus swells;
From every heart it springs,
On every tongue it dwells.

Goddess of connubial love,
Sister thou and wife of Jove,
Bid the genial powers that glide
On æther's all-pervading tide,
Or from the fount of life that stream,
Mingling with the solar beam,
Bid them here, at Virtue's shrine,
In chastest bands of union join,
Till many a GEORGE and many a CHARLOTTE prove.
How much to Thee we owe, queen of connubial love!

On the twenty-second of September, another ceremony succeeded the royal nuptials, which afforded greater room for the display of loyalty and magnificence. A proclamation had been issued in July, appointing the twenty-second of September for the king's coronation; and a similar notice was now published in the gazette, declaring it to be his Majesty's intention that the queen should be crowned at the same time. A commission had also passed the great seal, constituting a court to decide the pretensions of such people as laid claim to different offices and privileges upon that occasion.

This ceremony was absolutely necessary, as the tenures of sundry manors, and the enjoyment of certain rights and inheritances, depended on the performance of particular services at the coronation.

This splendid scene took place at Westminster Hall, which was prepared for the occasion, by removing the courts of judicature, boarding the floor, erecting canopies, and building three rows of galleries for the accommodation of spectators. A platform was also raised and extended from the upper end of the hall, where the procession was to begin, round to the west door of the Abbey, in the choir of which the ceremony was to be performed. All the houses and streets within view of the platform were lined with benches and scaffolding, the security and convenience of which were carefully examined by the board of works. Every other precaution was in like manner used to guard against accidents from fire, and to prevent the too frequent consequences of boundless curiosity and tumultuous joy.

About nine o'clock in the morning their majesties and the princess dowager went from St. James's through the park in chairs, and their attendants in coaches, to Westminster-hall. The king retired into the court of wards, and the queen into the black rod's room, where they continued until the officers of arms ranged the procession into order. Their majesties then taking their seats at the upper end of the hall, the four swords and spears were presented according to form, and laid upon the table before the king. The bible and the regalia were next brought from the Abbey by the dean and prebendaries; and after being laid before their majesties, were delivered by the king's command

to the lords entitled to be the bearers of them. At eleven o'clock the procession began in the following order :

THE PROCESSION.

The king's herb-woman, followed by six maids, strewing the way with sweet herbs.

The dean's beadle of Westminster, with his staff.

The high constable of Westminster, with his staff, in a scarlet cloak.

A file.

Four drums.

The drum-major.

Eight trumpets.

A kettle-drum.

Eight trumpets.

The serjeant trumpeter.

The six clerks in chancery, in gowns of black flowered satin, with black silk loops, and tufts upon the sleeves.

The closet keeper of the chapel royal.

The king's chaplains, four-a-breast.

The two sheriffs of London.

Thirteen aldermen of London below the chair, in their scarlet gowns.

The recorder of London.

The aldermen above the chair, wearing their gold chains.

Eleven masters in chancery, in rich gowns.

The king's three younger serjeants at law, in scarlet gowns, their caps in their hands.

The king's attorney general (Charles Pratt, Esq.)

The king's ancient serjeant (David Poole, Esq.)

Gentlemen of the privy chamber.

Barons of the Exchequer, and justices of both benches, in their scarlet robes, with their caps in their hands,

the juniors first, two and two.

Chief baron of the exchequer, in his scarlet robe, with the collar of SS of gold.

Children of the choir of Westminster, in surplices.

Serjeant of the vestry—Serjeant porter—in scarlet gowns.

Children of the chapel royal, in surplices, with scarlet mantles over them.

Choir of Westminster, in surplices, with their music books.

The organ-blower. The groom of the vestry.

Gentlemen of the chapel royal, in scarlet mantles.

The sub-dean of the chapel royal, in a scarlet gown turned up with black velvet.

Prebendaries of Westminster, in surplices and copes, with their caps in their hands.

The master of the jewel-house, with one of his officers, both in scarlet.

Bath king of arms, in his habit of the order, and carrying his coronet in his hand.

Knights of the Bath, under the degree of peers, in the full habits and collars of their order, two and two, carrying their caps and feathers in their hands.

Pursuivant at arms, Blanch Lyon,

Privy councillors, not peers, amongst them the master of the rolls.

His majesty's vice-chamberlain (William Finch, Esq.)

Rouge Croix. [Pursuivants at arms.] Rouge Dragon.

Baronesses in their state robes, their coronets in their hands.

Barons in their state robes, their coronets in their hands.

Blue mantle.

[Heralds]

Portcullis.

Bishops in their rochetts, their square caps in their hands

Arundel herald, with his [Heralds] Blanch Coursier, with his coat and collar of SS. collar of SS, gold chain.

and badge.

Viscountesses in their state robes, their coronets in their hands.

Viscounts in their state robes, their coronets in their hands.

Brunswick herald, in his

coat, collar, gold chain, [Heralds] Lancaster, with his coat and badge.

Countesses in their state robes, their coronets in their hands.

Earls, except such as carried any of the regalia, in their state robes, their coronets in their hands.

The lord steward of the household being an earl,

Windsor in his coat and

[Heralds]

York in his coat and

collar.

collar.

Marchionesses in their state robes, their coronets in their hands.

Marquesses in their state robes, their coronets in their hands.

Richmond in his coat and

[Heralds]

Gloster in his coat and

collar

collar.

Duchesses in their state robes, their coronets in their hands.

Dukes in their state robes, their coronets in their hands.

The lord chamberlain of the household. (Duke of Devonshire)

Provincial kings of arms.

Ulster, with his

Clarencieux, with

Norroy, with his

coat, collar, and

his coat, collar and

coat, collar and

badge, his coro-

badge, his coronet

badge, his coro-

net in his hand.

in his hand.

net in his hand.

Lord privy seal (earl Temple)

Lord president (earl Grenville)

in his state robes, his coronet

in his state robes, his coronet

in his hand.

in his hand.

Lord chancellor (lord Henley) in his state robes, and coronet in his hand, bearing the purse.

Lord Archbishop of Canterbury (Dr. Thomas Secker) in his rochet, with his cap in his hand.

Two gentlemen of the privy chamber. (Sir William Breton and Sir Thomas Robinson, Bart.) in crimson velvet mantles, lined with

white sarsenet, and faced with miniver powdered with ermine, their hats in their hands, representing the dukes of

Aquitaine

Normandy

The queen's vice-chamberlain (Lord vicount Cantalupe)

Two gentlemen ushers.

[The queen's regalia.]

The ivory rod with the dove borne by the earl of Northampton in his state robes.

The queen's lord chamberlain (duke of Manchester) in his robes, with his coronet and staff in his hand.

[The queen's regalia.]

The Sceptre with the cross borne by the duke of Rutland in his state robes.

Two
Sergeants
at arms.

The queen's crown, borne by the duke of Bolton, in his state robes.

Two
Sergeants
at arms.

20 gentlemen pensioners.

Bishop of Norwich, nominated to London.

The QUEEN,

in her royal robes (on her head a circlet of gold adorned with jewels) going under a canopy of cloth of gold, borne by sixteen barons of the cinque ports; her train supported by her royal highness the princess Augusta in her state robes, assisted by six earls' daughters.

Bishop of Lincoln

20 gentlemen pensioners.

Lady Mary Grey,

Lady Selina Hastings,

Lady Eliz. Montague,

Lady Heneage Finch,

Lady Jane Stuart,

Lady Mary Douglas.

Princess's coronet, borne by the marquis of Carnarvon.

Duchess of Ancestar, mistress of the robes.

Two women of her majesty's bed-chamber.

[The king's regalia.]

St. Edward's staff, borne by the duke of Kingston in his robes.

The golden spurs, borne by the earl of Sussex in his robes.

The sceptre with the cross, borne by the duke of Marlborough in his robes.

The third sword, borne by the earl of Sutherland in his robes.

Curtana, borne by the earl of Lincoln in his robes.

The second sword, borne by the earl of Suffolk in his robes.

Usher of the green rod.

Lord Mayor of London (Sir Mat. Blackiston) in his gown, collar, and jewel, bearing the city mace.

Lyon king of arms of Scotland, (John Campbell Hooke Esq.) carrying his crown in his hand.

Usher of the white rod.

Garter principal king of arms, (Ste. Mart. Leake Esq.) his crown in his hand.

Gentleman Usher of the black rod, (Sir Septimus Robinson) with his rod.

The lord great chamberlain of England, (the duke of Ancaster) in his state robes, his coronet and white staff in his hands.

His royal highness the duke of Cumberland in his state robes, and coronet in his hand, followed by his train-bearer.

His royal highness the duke of York in his state robes, and coronet in his hand, followed by his train bearer.

Earl Marshal (the earl of Effingham) in his robes, with his coronet and earl marshal's staff in his hands.	The sword of state, * borne by the earl of Huntingdon, in his robes.	Lord high constable of England (the duke of Bedford) in his robes, with his coronet and staff.	High constable of Scotland (the earl of Errol) in his robes, with his coronet and staff.
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A gentleman carrying the staff of the lord high steward	Serjeant at arms.	The sceptre with the dove borne by the duke of Richmond in his robes. The paten, by the bp. of Rochester.	St. Edward's crown borne by the lord high steward (earl Talbot) in his robes. The Bible, carried by the bp. of Carlisle.	The orb, borne by the duke of Somerset in his robes. The chalice, by the bp. of Chester.	Serjeant at arms.	A gentleman carrying the coronet of the lord high steward
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Bp. of Hereford.

The KING,

Bp. of Durham.

in his royal robes (on his head a cap of state adorned with jewels) going under a canopy of cloth of gold, borne by sixteen barons of the cinque ports; his train supported by six lords, eldest sons of peers,

Gentlemen pensioners.

Gentlemen pensioners.

Visc. Maudeville,	Lord Beauchamp,	Lord Grey,
Lord Howard,	Marq. of Hartington,	Lord Newnham,
and at the end of it, the master of the robes, hon. J. Brudenell.		
Standard bearer of the yeomen of the guard	Captain of the horse in waiting in his robes	Captain of the band of gent. pensioners, in his robes.
Lieutenant of the band of gentle-men pensioners.		

A gentleman of the king's bed-chamber.

Two grooms of the bed-chamber.

Ensign of the yeomen of the guard.

Lieutenant of the yeomen of the guard.

Exempts.

The yeomen of the guard.

Exempts.

The clerk of the checque to the yeomen of the guard.

* The king's sword having, by some mistake been left behind at St. James's, the lord mayor's sword was carried before his majesty by the earl of Huntingdon, in its stead; but when the procession came into the abbey, the sword of state was found placed upon the altar.

Though the princess dowager of Wales and the younger branches of her family did not walk in the procession of their majesties, they afforded no small gratification to the public by forming a separate party, and going, a little before the grand procession began, from the house of lords across old palace-yard to the Abbey, on a platform erected for that purpose. Her royal highness was led by the hand by prince William Henry. Her train was short, and therefore not borne by any person: her hair flowed down her shoulders in easy curls: she wore a circlet of diamonds round her head, but no cap. Her highness was followed by the rest of her children, prince Henry Frederic handing the princess Louisa Anne, and prince Frederic William handing his youngest sister Caroline Matilda. The princes were all drest in white and silver, and the two princesses wore slips with hanging sleeves. Several persons of rank, but who had not a right to walk with their majesties, attended her royal highness; and, at the close of her suite, appeared the three Mahometan ambassadors, then at the English court, in the proper dresses of their country.

Several large booths containing above a thousand seats (styled at this time the Coronation Theatres,) were erected and let at very extravagant prices. These, the benches and scaffolding on each side of the streets, and every commodious or elevated spot which money could procure, were covered chiefly with persons of fortune in all the richness and va-

riety of dress; while the crowds below, and as far as the most distant view of the platform could be obtained, exhibited the appearance of a pavement of human heads and faces. In short, such a prodigious concourse of people, and such perfect unanimity of affection for their king and queen, had never before been equalled on any similar occasion.

Fancy ribbons, with the words "God save the King and Queen," were universally worn. Information having been given to the lords of his majesty's honourable privy council, that the hackney coachmen and chairmen had entered into a combination not to work their coaches and chairs on the coronation-day without exorbitant prices, their lordships caused an order to be published, requiring all hackney-coachmen and chairmen to be out with coaches and chairs by four in the morning, and faithfully to perform their duty without making any exorbitant demands, upon pain of being proceeded against with the utmost severity. But as working their way through the great crowds, with which this great solemnity was likely to be attended, could not fail subjecting both coachmen and chairmen to infinite trouble, and the latter to great fatigue and danger, they threatened not to ply at all, to the great mortification of several of the gentry who lived at some distance. It was, therefore, thought prudent to take a middle course on the occasion; and accordingly one of the most eminent sedan-makers assured the chairmen, in a most affable advertisement, that the nobility

and gentry would consider them properly if they would but leave it entirely to themselves. This notice had the desired effect. The chairmen gave their attendance, and were generously paid: A guinea for a set down from any of the squares at the court end of the town to Westminster Abbey was grudged by few, if by any; no complaints, however, were made to the board, though notice had long been given that three or four extraordinary meetings would be held to hear and determine complaints. It should be observed that sedans or chairs were at this time more fashionable than hired coaches.

Notwithstanding the immense multitudes assembled on this occasion, no accident occurred, and very little disturbance was excited. This was greatly owing to the judicious exertions of the peace-officers, and to the conduct of the horse and foot guards, who behaved with so much temper and good discipline, that no obstruction whatever attended the whole ceremony. A particular instance may be deemed worth relating. A number of sailors, all in clean dresses, got up to the platform, and insisted on standing there to see the procession. At first the guards opposed them; but the commanding officer put an immediate stop to the scuffle that was likely to ensue, by ordering that the sailors should be permitted to keep the place they had chosen, on condition of their not making the least noise. They agreed to the terms, and strictly observed them till the king passed by,

when, being no longer able to contain themselves, the boatswain sounded his pipe, and the whole party gave three loud cheers, while his majesty appeared highly delighted with their characteristic expressions of loyalty.

Their Majesties entered the abbey about half an hour past one, where they assisted for several hours with exemplary piety, in all the solemn and religious acts which preceded and followed the ceremony of the coronation.

The nobility of Ireland having, previous to this ceremony, revived the dispute about the precedence of the Irish peers walking at the wedding, the King directed that the privy council should enquire and report the precedents, as they happened upon similar occasions; upon which report the Irish peers and peeresses were admitted to walk, and were marshalled in the procession, together with the peers and peeresses of Great Britain, according to their respective degrees, taking place of the British nobility of inferior rank.

The following anthem, composed by Dr. Boyce, was performed on this occasion :

A Grand Festival Symphony.

Chorus.

“The King shall rejoice in thy strength O Lord,
exceedingly glad shall he be of thy salvation.”

Duet by Mr. Savage and Mr. Cooper.

“Thou hast given him his heart's desire, and hast
not denied him the request of his lips.”

Chorus repeated.

Solo, by a Boy.

“ Blessed is the man that hath a virtuous wife, for the number of his days shall be doubled.”

Solo, by Mr. Mence.

“ A virtuous woman is a crown to her husband ; her price is far above rubies.

“ Strength and honour are her clothing, and she shall rejoice in the time to come.”

Solo, by Mr. Beard.

“ Hearken O daughter, consider and incline thine ear, forget thine own people and thy father's house.

“ So shall the king have pleasure in thy beauty.

“ Instead of thy fathers thou shalt have children whom thou may'st make princes in all lands.”

Chorus.

“ Children are an heritage of the Lord, and the fruit of the womb is his reward.

“ Lo! thus shall they be blessed that fear the Lord.”

After this anthem the first oblation was made by the King, being a pall or altar cloth of gold and an ingot or wedge of gold of one pound weight, the queen also offered a pall of gold. After which their Majesties took their seats on the south side of the altar. The regalia were severally presented to the archbishop at the altar, and the great officers retired to their seats.

The Litany was sung by Dr. Keene, bishop of Chester, and Dr. Ashburnham, bishop of Chichester, the choir singing the responses. The archbishop began the communion service ; the bishop of

Rochester read the epistle, and the bishop of Litchfield the gospel.

Dr. Drummond, bishop of Salisbury, preached a sermon on 1 Kings x. 9, "Blessed be the Lord thy God that delighteth in thee, to sit thee on the throne of Israel, because the Lord loved Israel for ever, therefore made he thee king to do judgment and justice." At the beginning of the sermon his Majesty put on his cap of crimson velvet, trimmed up with ermine.

After the sermon the archbishop read to the King the declaration against transubstantiation, and the authority of Rome, which his Majesty repeated, and afterwards signed the same.

Another anthem was then sung, after which the Archbishop read the anointing prayer, which was succeeded by the coronation anthem "Zadoc the Priest:" His Majesty then removed to St. Edward's Chair, and the unction was performed by the Archbishop, four knights of the garter holding a pall over his Majesty, during the anointing, viz; the Duke of Devonshire, earl of Northumberland, earl of Hertford and earl Waldegrave; then the archbishop, standing up, said a blessing over his Majesty.

A fifth anthem was sung and the spurs were then presented, and his Majesty girt with the sword which was afterwards offered and redeemed: His Majesty was invested with the ermill, the purple robe and orb, and afterwards the ring was put on the fourth finger of his Majesty's right hand by the archbishop, and the orb was returned to the

altar. The marquis of Rockingham, deputy to the Duke of Norfolk, as lord of the manor of Worksop, presented a right hand glove to his Majesty, who, putting it on, received from the archbishop the sceptre with the cross, and afterwards the sceptre with the dove, into his left hand; and the marquis supported his Majesty's right hand as occasion required. The King sitting in King Edward's chair, the archbishop then set the crown on the King's head about half an hour after three o'clock. The trumpets then sounded; the Park and Tower guns fired, in consequence of a signal given by a man placed on the top of the dome; and all the people, with loud and repeated shouts, cried "*God save the King!*" It was almost dark when the procession returned to Westminster-hall, which, at the approach of their Majesties, was suddenly lighted up with near three thousand wax candles, and soon after displayed a very sumptuous banquet, well-suited to the dignity of those who were to be entertained. Between the first and second course, the ceremony of the challenge, addressed to any person who should deny the King's right, was performed by the champion of England, according to ancient custom. At ten o'clock, their Majesties and the rest of the company withdrew, and the hall-doors were thrown open to the populace.

Another anthem being sung, the archbishop presented the bible, and pronounced the benediction, and his Majesty kissed the bishops kneeling before him.

Medals of his Majesty and the Queen were thrown about by the treasurer of the household.

After the coronation of his Majesty, the Queen removed from her seat on the south side of the area, to a chair placed before the altar, and was anointed (four ladies holding a pall over her Majesty) and afterwards invested with the ring, and crowned by the archbishop; upon which the peeresses put on their coronets. The archbishop then delivered the sceptre into her right hand, and the ivory rod her left.

Two more anthems were sung, and when the archbishop began the offertory, "Let your light so shine, &c." the King made his offerings of bread and wine, and a mark of gold. The Queen also made her offerings. The holy sacrament was then administered.

After the coronation ceremony the King and Queen retired into King Edward's chapel, and standing before the altar, took off their crowns, and delivered them, with their sceptre, to the archbishop, who laid them before the altar there. The King withdrew into his traverse prepared for him upon the western wall of that chapel; the Queen in the mean time reposing herself in the chair. Here the King was disrobed of his royal robe of state, and again arrayed with his robe of purple velvet.

When the King came forth, the Queen arose, and they both stood before the altar, and the archbishop set the crowns of state, provided for the

King and Queen to wear during the rest of the solemnity, upon their heads, adhering to the usual forms. The archbishops and bishops divested themselves of their capes and proceeded in their usual habit.

Their Majesties retired into the Court of Wards till dinner was ready, and then sitting in their chairs of state, the first course was brought up with the usual ceremony, his Royal Highness the Duke of York, and his Royal Highness the Duke of Cumberland, sitting at the end of the table on his Majesty's right hand; and her Royal Highness the Princess Augusta, at the other end of the table on the Queen's left hand. Before the second course, the Champion was brought up between the high constable and earl Marshal, followed by four pages, and preceded by the herald, who pronounced the challenge, the champions, two esquires, with a lance and target, two serjeants at arms, and the Knight Marshal going before to clear the passage.

After other forms the second course was served up in the same order as the first. The several services, which had been allowed by the Court of Claims were performed, and his Majesty then conferred the honor of knighthood on three gentlemen, (J. Bridge, Owen Jones, and C. Townley, Esqrs.) No less than 60 haunches of venison, with a surprising quantity of all sorts of game were laid in for this grand feast. The King's table was covered with 120 dishes at three several times,

served up by his Majesty's band of pensioners. The desert attracted every eye, for the confectioner had lavished all his ingenuity in rock-work and emblematical figures. The other deserts were no less remarkable for their expressive devices. It should be observed, as it occasioned some merriment at the time, that lady Sarah Lenox, who had been the object of 'Royal affection, was one of her Majesty's bride maids.

The celebrated Mr. Bonnel Thornton, wrote an entertaining and familiar detail of the particular circumstances attending the Coronation, in a letter to his friend in the country; which, on account of its peculiar merit, is submitted as a close to our description of that magnificent spectacle:—

“ DEAR SIR,

“ Though I regret leaving you so soon, especially as the weather has since proved so fine, that it makes me long to be with you in the country, yet I honestly confess, that I am heartily glad I came to town as I did. As I have seen it, I declare I would not have missed the sight upon any consideration. The friendship of Mr. Rolles, who procured me a pass ticket, as they call it, enabled me to be present both in the Hall and the Abbey; and as to the procession out of doors, I had a fine view of it from a one-pair of stairs room, which your neighbour, Sir Edward, had hired at the small price of one hundred guineas, on purpose to oblige his acquaintance. I wish you had been with me; but as you have been deprived of a sight, which probably

very few that were present will ever see again, I will endeavour to describe it to you as minutely as I can, while the circumstances are fresh in my memory, though my description must fall very short of the reality. First, then, conceive to yourself the fronts of the houses, in all the streets that could command the least point of view, lined with scaffolding like so many galleries or boxes raised one above another to the very roofs. These were covered with carpets and cloths of different colours, which presented a pleasing variety to the eye ; and if you consider the brilliant appearance of the spectators who were seated in them (many being richly dressed) you will easily imagine this was no indifferent part of the show. The mob underneath made a pretty contrast to the rest of the company. Add to this, that though we had nothing but wet and cloudy weather for some time before, the day cleared up, and the sun shone auspiciously, as it were in compliment to the grand festival. The platform, on account of the uncertainty of the weather, had a shelving roof, which was covered with a kind of sail-cloth ; but near the place where I was, an honest Jack Tar climbed up to the top and stripped off the covering, which gave us not only a more extensive view, but let the light in upon every part of the procession. I should tell you, that a rank of foot soldiers was placed on each side within the platform ; and it was not a little surprising to see the officers familiarly conversing and walking arm and arm with many of them, till

we were let into the secret, that they were gentlemen who had put on the dresses of common soldiers, for what purpose I need not mention. On the outside were stationed, at proper distances, several parties of horse-guards, whose horses, indeed, somewhat incommoded the people, that pressed incessantly upon them, by their prancing and capering; though, luckily, I do not hear of any great mischief being done. I must confess, it gave me much pain to see the soldiers, both horse and foot, most unmercifully belabouring the heads of the mob with their broad-swords, bayonets, and muskets; but it was not unpleasant to observe several tipping the horse soldiers slyly from time to time (some with halfpence, and some with silver, as they could muster up the cash) to let them pass between the horses to get nearer the platform; after which these unconscionable gentry drove them back again. As soon as it was day-break (for I chose to go to my place over-night) we were diverted with seeing the coaches and chairs of the nobility and gentry passing along with much ado; and several persons very richly dressed, were obliged to quit their equipages, and be escorted by the soldiers through the mob to their respective places. Several carriages, I am told, received great damage: Mr. Jennings, whom you know, had his chariot broke to pieces; but providentially neither he nor Mrs. Jennings, who were in it, received any hurt.

“ Their Majesties (to the shame of those be it spoken who were not so punctual) came in their

chairs from St. James's through the park to Westminster about nine o'clock. The king went into a room which they call the Court of Wards, and the Queen into that belonging to the gentlemen-usher of the Black-rod. The nobility and others, who were to walk in the procession, were mustered and ranged by the officers of arms in the Court of Requests, Painted Chamber, and House of Lords, from whence the cavalcade was conducted into Westminster Hall. As you know all the avenues and places about the Hall, you will not be at a loss to understand me. My pass-ticket would have been of no service, if I had not prevailed on one of the guards, by the irresistible argument of half-a-crown, to make way for me through the mob to the Hall-gate, where I got admittance just as their Majesties were seated at the upper end, under magnificent canopies. Her Majesty's chair was on the left hand of his Majesty; and they were attended by the great chamberlain, lord high constable, earl marshal, and other great officers. Four swords, I observed, and as many spurs, were presented in form, and then placed upon a table before the king.

“ There was a neglect, it seems, somewhere, in not sending for the dean and prebendaries of Westminster, &c. who, not finding themselves summoned, came of their own accord, preceded by the choristers, singers, &c. among whom was your favourite, as indeed he is of every one, Mr. Beard. The Hall gate was now thrown open to admit this lesser procession from the Abbey, when the bishop

of Rochester (that is, the dean) and his attendants brought the Bible and the following regalia of the King, viz. St. Edward's crown, rested on a cushion of gold cloth, the orb with the cross, a sceptre with the dove on the top, another tip with a cross, and what they call St. Edward's staff. The Queen's regalia were brought at the same time, viz. her crown upon a cushion, a sceptre with a cross, and a rod of ivory with a dove. These were severally laid before their Majesties, and afterwards delivered to the respective officers who were to bear them in the procession.

“Considering the length of the cavalcade, and the numbers that were to walk, it is no wonder that there should be much confusion in marshalling the ranks. At last, however, every thing was regularly adjusted, and the procession began to quit the Hall between eleven and twelve. The platform leading to the west door of the Abbey was covered with blue baize for the train to walk on; but there seemed to me a defect in not covering the upright posts that supported the awning, as it is called, (for they looked mean and naked) with that or some other coloured cloth. As I carry you along, I shall wave mentioning the minute particulars of the procession, and only observe that the nobility walked two by two. Being willing to see the procession pass along the platform through the streets, I hastened from the Hall, and by the assistance of a soldier made my way to my former station at the corner of Bridge Street, where the windows com-

needed a double view at the turning. I shall not attempt to describe the splendor and magnificence of the whole; and words must fall short of that innate joy and satisfaction which the spectators felt and expressed, especially as their Majesties passed by; on whose countenances a dignity suited to their station, tempered with the most amiable complacency, was sensibly impressed. It was observable that as their Majesties and the nobility passed the corner which commanded a prospect of Westminster Bridge, they stopped short, and turned back to look at the people, whose appearance, as they all had their hats off and were thick planted on the ground, which rose gradually, I can compare to nothing but a pavement of heads and faces.

“ I had the misfortune not to be able to get to the Abbey time enough to see all that passed there; nor, indeed, when I got in, could I have so distinct a view as I could have wished. But our friend Harry Whitaker had the luck to be stationed in the first row of the gallery behind the seats allotted for the nobility, close to the square platform which was erected by the altar, with an ascent of three steps, for their Majesties to be crowned on. You are obliged to him, therefore, for several particulars which I could not otherwise have informed you of. He tells me, as soon as their Majesties entered the church, the choir struck up with an anthem; and after they were seated, and the usual recognition and oblations were made, the litany was chanted by the bishops of Chester and Chi-

chester, and the responses made by the whole choir, accompanied by the whole band of Music. Then the first part of the communion-service was read; after which a sermon was preached by the bishop of Salisbury, now archbishop of York. I was not near enough to hear it, nor, perhaps you will say, did I much desire it; but, by my watch, it lasted only fifteen minutes. This done, Harry says he saw very distinctly his Majesty subscribe the declaration, and take the coronation oath, the solemnity of which struck him with an unspeakable awe and reverence; and he could not help reflecting on the glorious privilege which the English enjoy, of binding their kings by the most sacred ties of conscience and religion. The king was then anointed by his grace of Canterbury on the crown of his head, his breast, and the palms of his hands; after which he was presented with the spurs, and girt with the sword, and was then invested with the coronation robes, the ermell as they are called, and the imperial pall. The orb with the cross was also presented, and the ring was put upon the fourth finger of his Majesty's right hand by the archbishop, who then delivered the sceptre with the cross, and the other with the dove; and being assisted by several bishops, he lastly placed the crown reverently upon his Majesty's head. A profound awful silence had reigned till this moment, when, at the very instant the crown was let fall on the king's head, a person having been placed on the top of the Abbey dome, from whence he could look down into the chancel,

with a flag which he dropt as a signal ; the Park and Tower guns began to fire, the trumpets sounded, and the Abbey echoed with the repeated shouts and acclamations of the people. The peers, who before this time had their coronets in their hands, now put them on, as the bishops did their caps, and the representatives of the dukes of Aquitaine and Normandy their hats. The knights of the Bath in particular made a most splendid figure, when they put on their caps, which were adorned with large plumes of white feathers. It is to be observed, that there were no commoners knights of the Garter ; consequently, instead of caps and vestments peculiar to their order, they, being all peers, wore the robes and coronets of their respective ranks. I should mention, that the kings of arms also put on coronets.

“ Silence again assumed her reign, and the shouts ceasing, the archbishop proceeded with the rest of the divine service ; and after he had presented the Bible to his Majesty, and solemnly read the benedictions, his Majesty kissed the archbishops and bishops one after another as they knelt before him. The *Te Deum* was now performed, and this being ended, his Majesty was elevated on a superb throne, which all the peers approached in their order, and did their homages.

“ The coronation of the Queen was performed in nearly the same manner with that of his Majesty ; the archbishop anointed her with the holy oil on the head and breast, and after he had put the

crown upon her head, it was a signal for Princess Augusta and the peeresses to put on their coronets. Her Majesty then received the sceptre with the cross, and the ivory rod with the dove, and was conducted to a magnificent throne on the left hand of his Majesty.

“ I cannot but lament that I was not near enough to observe their Majesties going through the most serious and solemn acts of devotion ; but I am told, that the reverent attention which both paid, when (after having made their second oblations) the next ceremony was, their receiving the holy communion, it brought to the mind of every one near them, a proper recollection of the consecrated place in which they were. Prayers being over, the king and queen retired into St. Edward's chapel, just behind the altar. You must remember it—it is where the superstition of the Roman Catholics has robbed the tomb of that royal confessor of some of its precious ornaments : here their Majesties received each of them a crown of state, as it is called; and a procession was made in the same manner as before, except in some trifling instances, back again to Westminster-Hall, all wearing their coronets, caps, &c. You know I have often said, that if one loses an hour in the morning, one may ride after it the whole day without being able to overtake it. This was the case in the present instance ; for, to whatever causes it might be owing, the procession most assuredly set off too late ; besides, according to what Harry observed, there

were such long pauses between some of the ceremonies in the Abbey, as plainly shewed all the actors were not perfect in their parts. However it be, it is impossible to conceive the chagrin and disappointment which the late return of the procession occasioned ; it being so late indeed, that the spectators, even in the open air, had but a very dim and gloomy view of it, while to those who had sat patiently in Westminster Hall, waiting its return for six hours, scarce a glimpse of it appeared, as the branches were not lighted till just upon his Majesty's entrance. I had flattered myself that a new scene of splendid grandeur would have been presented to us in the return of the procession, from the reflection of the lights, &c. and had therefore posted back to the Hall with all possible expedition ; but not even the brilliancy of the ladies' jewels, or the greater lustre of their eyes, had the power to render our *darkness visible* ; the whole was confusion, irregularity, and disorder.

“ However, we were afterwards amply recompensed for this partial eclipse by the bright picture which the lighting of the chandeliers presented to us. Your unlucky law-suit has made you too well acquainted with Westminster Hall for me to think of describing it to you ; but I assure you the face of it was greatly altered from what it was when you attended to hear the verdict given against you. Instead of the inclosures for the courts of Chancery and King's Bench at the upper end, which were both removed, a platform was raised with several

“ It was pleasant to see the various stratagems made use of by the company in the galleries to come in for a snack of the good things below. The ladies clubbed their handkerchiefs to be tied together to draw up a chicken or a bottle of wine; nay, even garters (I will not say of a different sex) were united for the same purpose. Some had been so provident as to bring baskets with them, which were let down, like the prisoners’ boxes at Ludgate or the gate House, with a *Pray remember the poor*.

“ You will think it high time that I should bring this long letter to a conclusion. Let it suffice then to acquaint you, that their Majesties returned to St. James’s a little after ten o’clock at night; but they were pleased to give time for the peeresses to go first, that they might not be incommoded by the pressure of the mob to see their Majesties. After the nobility were departed, the illustrious *mobility* were (according to custom) admitted into the Hall, which they presently cleared of all the moveables, such as the victuals, cloths, plates, dishes, &c. and, in short, every thing that could stick to their fingers.

“ I need not tell you, that several coronation medals, in silver, were thrown among the populace at the return of the procession. One of them was pitched into Mrs. Dixon’s lap, as she sat upon a scaffold in Palace Yard. Some, it is said, were also thrown among the peeresses in the Abbey just after the king was crowned; but they thought it below their dignity to stoop to pick them up.

“ My wife desires her compliments to you: she was *hugely* pleased with the sight. All friends are well, except that little Nancy Green has got a swelled face, by being up all night; and Tom Moffat has his leg laid upon a stool, on account of a broken shin, which he got by a kick from a trooper's horse, as a reward for his mobbing it. I shall say nothing of the illuminations at night: the newspapers must have told you of them, and that the admiralty in particular was remarkably lighted up. I expect to have from you an account of the rejoicings at your little town; and desire to know whether you were able to get a slice of the ox which was roasted whole on this occasion.

“ Our friend Harry, who was upon the scaffold, at the return of the procession closed in with the rear; at the expence of half-a-guinea was admitted into the Hall; got brim-full of his Majesty's claret: and, in the universal plunder, brought off the glass her Majesty drank in, which is placed in the beaufait as a valuable curiosity.”

The day after the coronation, their Majesties went to Drury Lane Theatre, in chairs, to see the Rehearsal, in which Mr. Garrick performed.

On the 25th of Oct. their Majesties went to Covent Garden Theatre, to see the Beggar's Opera, with which her Majesty appeared highly delighted. The playhouses vied with each other in decorations on this occasion. Two magnificent boxes were prepared for this night; the expence of which was said to have been 700l.

your Majesty displays towards even the meanest of your subjects, we are emboldened to hope you will accept the tribute of obedience and duty which we poor orphans are permitted to present you!

“ Educated and supported by the munificence of a charity, founded, enlarged, and protected by your Royal predecessors, with the warmest gratitude, we acknowledge our inexpressible obligations to its bounty, and the distinguished happiness we have hitherto enjoyed under the constant patronage of former princes. May this ever be our boast and glory! Nor can we think we shall prefer our praers in vain, whilst with earnest but humble supplications, we implore the patronage and protection of your Majesty.

“ To our ardent petition for your princely favours, may we presume, dread sovereign, to add our most respectful congratulations on your auspicious marriage with your royal consort. Strangers to the disquietude which often dwells within the circle of a crown, long may your Majesties experience the heartfelt satisfaction of domestic life, in the uninterrupted possession of every endearment of the most tender union, every blessing of conjugal affection, every comfort of parental felicity. And may a race of princes, your illustrious issue and descendants, formed by the example and inheriting the virtues of their great and good progenitors, continue to sway the British sceptre to the latest posterity.”

The boys in a grand chorus chanted "God save the King" and the senior scholar delivered two copies of the speech to the King and Queen, who received them graciously.

From thence their Majesties went to the house of Mr. Barclay, opposite to Bow church, which was on this occasion decorated in a very sumptuous manner; the rooms, balcony, &c. being hung with crimson damask; and from this house they saw the procession of the Lord-mayor, &c.

At the close of the procession, the Earl Temple and the Right Hon. William Pitt, came in one chariot, and were honoured with the most hearty acclamations of people of all ranks.

The Lord-mayor, Aldermen, &c. &c. returned in the order they went, and landed at the Temple-stairs; and from thence proceeded up Temple-lane, and through Fleet-street, to Guildhall.

The state coach was drawn by six beautiful iron-grey horses, richly caparisoned.

The shew, on the water, was very brilliant; the Skinners' company in particular made a very pretty appearance, by representing the different habits of the Indian Princes and their warriors in the habits of their respective countries, which had a very pleasing effect.

The procession being thus ended, the Royal family were conducted by the Sheriffs to Guildhall; at the entrance of which they were received by the Lord-mayor, who, kneeling, presented the city sword to the King; which his Majesty graciously pleasing

to return, it was carried before him by his lordship to the Council-chamber, where the compliments of the city were made to him. From thence in like manner, the Royal family proceeded to the hustings, where a most magnificent and sumptuous entertainment was provided.

Their Majesties were attended, as they passed from St. James's to the city, with the loudest acclamations of joy. Scaffoldings were built at many of the houses in this city, and the concourse of people who were assembled was almost incredible. Four regiments of the London Militia met at their respective parades, between the hours of seven and eight in the morning, and were under arms till evening.

All the foreign ministers met at M. Boreel's, the Dutch ambassador, at Whitehall, and proceeded from thence to Guildhall.

The entertainment at Guildhall was the most splendid, most elegant, most sumptuous, and best conducted, of any that had been given in this kingdom in the memory of man; and did honour to the munificence and taste of the great and opulent city of London, and in particular to the gentlemen under whose immediate direction the whole was so happily conducted. His Majesty, and all the Royal family, expressed their approbation with that benignity which was so natural to them; and the nobility and foreign ministers unanimously acknowledged it was beyond any thing they had ever seen.

The Bill of Fare, as served up at the Royal

table by Messieurs Horton and Birch, was as follows :

KING and QUEEN,
Each four services and removes.

First Service,
Consisting of turreens, fish, venison, &c. Nine dishes.

Second Service,
A fine roast; ortolans, quails, knotts, ruffs, pea-chicks,
&c. Nine dishes.

Third Service,
Consisting of vegetable and made dishes, green pease,
green morrells, green truffles, cardoons, &c. Eleven
dishes.

Fourth service,
Curious ornaments in pastry, jellies, blomonges, cakes,
&c. Nine dishes.

Eight of the ROYAL FAMILY.
Four on the right hand of the King and four on the left,
Each four Services before them, as follow :

First Service,
Consisting of venison, turtle, soups, fish of every sort,
viz. dories, mullets, turbot, betts, tench, soles, &c.
Seven dishes.

Second Service,
Ortolans, teal, quails, ruffs, snipes, partridges, pheasants,
&c. Seven dishes.

Third Service,
Vegetable and made dishes, green pease, artichokes,
ducks tongues, fat livers, &c. Nine dishes.

Fourth Service,
Curious ornaments in cakes, both savoury and sweet, and
jellies, blomonges, in variety of shapes, figures, and
colours. Nine dishes.

On the table between each service were placed near 100

cold ornamentals, and a grand silver epergne, filled with various kinds of shell-fish of different colours.

Hot and cold dishes 414, the dessert not included.

The chief dish which her Majesty relished was one of sprats, which she called "little fishes."

The ladies in waiting upon the Queen had claimed a kind of right by custom to dine at the same table with her Majesty; but this was overruled, and they dined at the Lady Mayoress's table.

The ball was opened by his Royal Highness the Duke of York and the Lady-mayoress. Minuets were danced till twelve, when their Majesties and the rest of the Royal Family took their leave.

Their Majesties did not arrive at St. James's till two o'clock in the morning.

The rest of the Royal Family followed them, as fast as their coaches could be brought up; the Lord-mayor, with the sword of state carried before him, the sheriffs, and gentlemen of the committee, conducting them to the hall-gate. The Queen's easy, elegant, and condescending behaviour made an impression on the whole company.

His Majesty, in the council-chamber at Guildhall, was pleased to confer the honour of knighthood on Nathaniel Nash and John Cartwright, Esqrs. the two sheriffs, and on Thomas Fludyer, Esq. brother to the Lord-mayor.

In the mean time Mr. Pitt (afterwards Lord Chatham,) and his brother-in-law, Lord Temple, resigned their employments, as their influence had

considerably declined. Mr. Pitt's resignation of the seals took place on the 5th of October; on the 9th he was succeeded by the Earl of Egremont, and on the 25th of November the Duke of Bedford was appointed keeper of the privy seal, in the place of Lord Temple. The new parliament met Nov. the 3rd, when the King, in the commencement of his speech to both houses, said,

“ My Lords and Gentlemen,

“ At the opening of the first parliament summoned and elected under my authority, I with pleasure take notice of an event, which has made me completely happy, and given universal joy to my loving subjects. My marriage with a princess, eminently distinguished by every virtue and amiable endowment, whilst it affords me all possible domestic comfort, cannot but highly contribute to the happiness of my kingdoms; which has been, and always shall be, my first object in every action of my life.”

His Majesty afterwards alluded to an adequate and honourable provision for the support of the Queen in case she should survive him: “ This is not only what her royal dignity but her own merit calls for, and I earnestly recommend it to your consideration.”

The rest of his Majesty's speech went to prove the absolute necessity of continuing the war; though it was “ my earnest wish, that this first period of my reign might be marked with another felicity, the restoring the blessings of peace to my

people, and putting an end to the calamities of war, under which so great a part of Europe suffers. But, though overtures were made to me and my good brother and ally the King of Prussia, by the several belligerent powers, in order to a general pacification, for which purpose a congress was appointed; and propositions were made to me by France for a particular peace with that crown, which was followed by an actual negociation; yet that congress hath not hitherto taken place, and that negociation with France is entirely broken off."

The House of Lords, in their address to his Majesty, (November 7,) observed, "It is impossible to approach your royal presence at this time, without making our first offering to your Majesty, of our most joyful congratulations on the auspicious occasion of your royal nuptials. We want words to describe how warmly we are affected with an event so highly interesting to your Majesty, and to all your faithful subjects; or to express our gratitude to your Majesty for giving us a Queen, who, whilst she completes your happiness, promises, by every virtue and amiable accomplishment, the greatest addition to that of your people. May Heaven grant the longest duration to this felicity; and may it be attended with a numerous progeny, to transmit the great examples of their illustrious parents, and perpetuate the blessings of your reign to future ages!"

To this part of the address his Majesty replied:

“ My Lords,

“ I thank you for this very dutiful and loyal address. The joy which you express upon my marriage, and your affectionate regard for the Queen, gives me the highest satisfaction.”

The following was part of the address of the House of Commons to his Majesty, presented November the 16th :

“ Most gracious Sovereign,

“ We, your Majesty’s most dutiful and loyal subjects, the Commons of Great Britain, in Parliament assembled, beg leave to return your Majesty the most humble and hearty thanks of this House, for your most gracious speech from the throne.

“ Permit us, at the same time, to offer to your Majesty our warmest congratulations on the joyful and auspicious event of your royal nuptials, with a Princess descended from an illustrious Protestant line, distinguished by the most eminent graces and endowments, and worthy to be the royal partner of your throne, by possessing every virtue that can adorn it.

“ We beg leave also to express our just sense of that affectionate regard which your Majesty has shewn for your people, by consulting, on this most important and interesting occasion, as on every other, their happiness, and that of their posterity. And we assure your Majesty, that with hearts full of gratitude for this signal instance of your royal attention to the welfare of your subjects, and tho-

roughly sensible of the exalted merit of your illustrious consort, your faithful Commons will not fail to make such honourable and ample provision as may enable her to support her royal dignity with proper lustre, in case she should survive your Majesty; for the long continuance of whose life we shall never cease to offer up to the Divine Providence our most ardent vows."

To this his Majesty thus replied :

"Gentlemen,

"I return you my hearty thanks for this very dutiful and affectionate address. The early proofs of your most cordial attachment to me and my family, upon the occasion of my marriage, and the particular regard and attention which you express for the Queen, in a manner that so nearly concerns her, cannot but give me most sensible satisfaction."

As soon as the Commons had agreed to this address, they farther resolved to send a message to the Queen, to congratulate her also on her nuptials; to express the unfeigned joy and satisfaction which the House felt upon seeing the most ardent wishes of a faithful people (anxious not only for the present and future welfare of these kingdoms, but also for the immediate and domestic happiness of their excellent Sovereign) so completely crowned by his Majesty's wise and happy choice of the royal partner of his throne; and to assure her Majesty of the most dutiful and zealous attachment of that house.

Thirteen of the members waited upon her Ma-

Majesty with this message, for which she returned them her hearty thanks, and assured them, that the happiness and prosperity of the kingdom would ever be the darling object of her life.

On the 19th of November, two days after the delivery of the message, the Commons gave her Majesty a proof of the sincerity of their professions, when they proceeded to take into consideration that part of the King's speech which related to his royal consort. They resolved, that in case she should survive his Majesty, she should enjoy a provision of one hundred thousand pounds per annum during her life, together with the palace of Somerset House, and the lodge and lands at Richmond Park; and, that the said annuity should be charged upon all or any part of those revenues of the crown, which, by an act made in the last Session, were directed to be consolidated with the aggregate fund. A bill, formed on these resolutions, passed both Houses without opposition, and received the royal assent on the 2d of December, when the Queen, who was present, and placed in a chair of state on the King's right hand, rose up and made her obeisance. She had also the pleasure to hear the Speaker renew, upon presenting the bill, the former assurances of the duty and affection of the Commons, blended with the most respectful and delicate compliments to her Majesty.

It is worthy of observation, that the provision settled on her Majesty, was exactly the same which

was fixed on the preceding Queen in case she survived her royal husband.

Somerset House, which was built by the Duke of Somerset, uncle to Edward the Sixth, fell to the crown soon after the Duke was attainted. It was usually assigned for the residence of the Queen-dowager. In this palace Anne of Denmark, King James the First's Queen, kept her court, upon which account it was called Denmark House during that reign; but it soon after recovered its first name. It was afterwards the residence of Queen Catherine, dowager of King Charles the Second. In lieu of this palace, Buckingham House was purchased by his Majesty for the Queen, for 21,000*l.* which was built by John Sheffield, Duke of Buckingham, in 1703. It now obtained the name of the *Queen's Palace*. Here is a fine collection of prints, and a great variety of pictures by the most eminent masters.

Kew Palace was also appropriated to the use of her Majesty about this time. This was the property of Samuel Molineux, Esq. Secretary to George the Second, when Prince of Wales. It was improved by Kent, and contains some pictures. The garden consists of 120 acres.

The gardens were greatly improved under the personal direction of the Queen; but her Majesty always gave the preference to Windsor Castle.

Mrs. Anna Louisa Darbasch (whose proper name was Karsch), a German poetess, who was deemed the prodigy of her country, but who lived

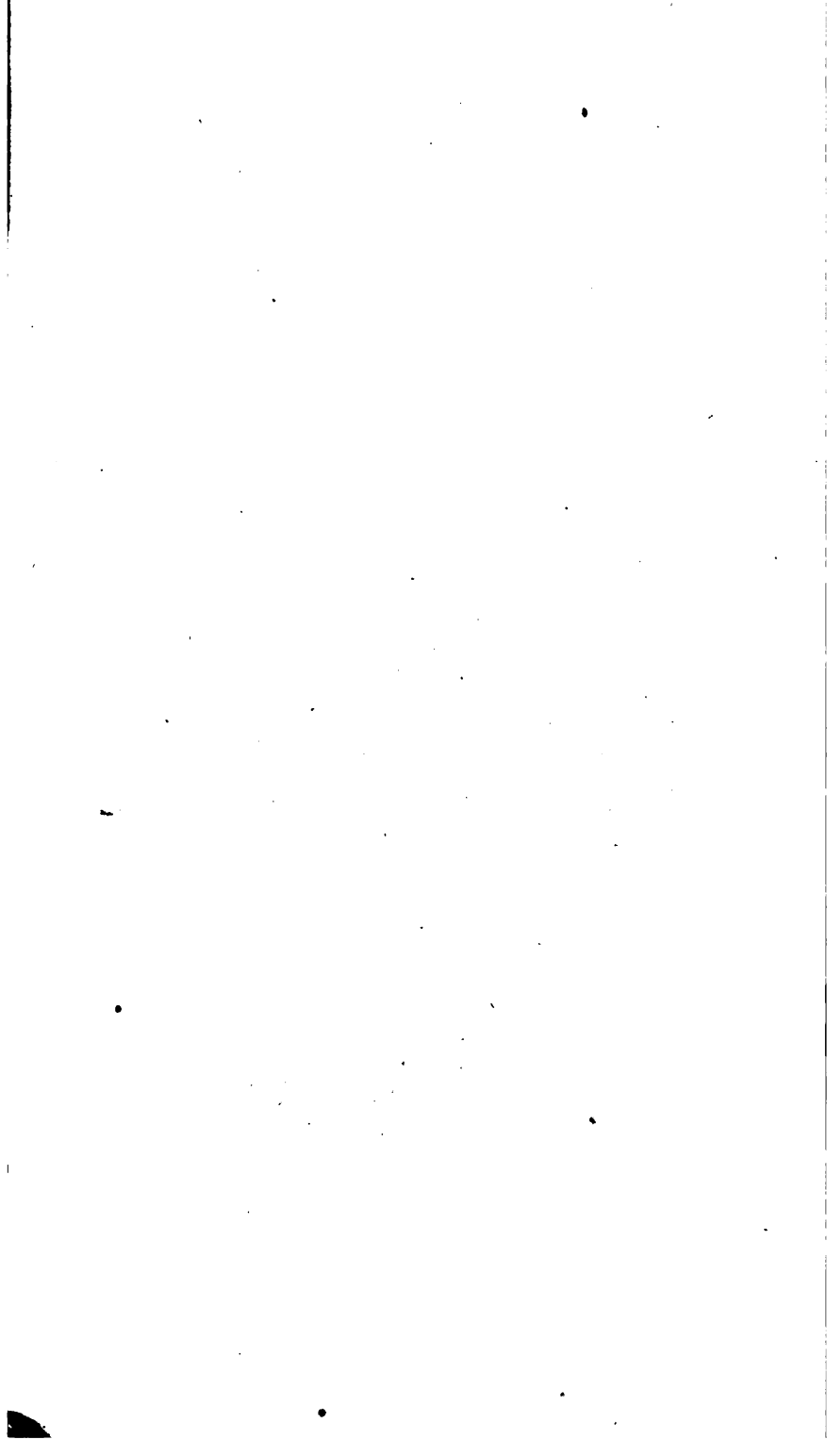


R. B. Schneebelen, del.

T. Horn, sculp.

BUCKINGHAM HOUSE.
St. James's Park.

Published April 11. 1819. by T. Kennerly, King's-Land Road.



in a state of extreme indigence, wrote an ode on the departure of Her Serene Highness, Princess Charlotte of Mecklenburg Strelitz, for the purpose of being married to his Britannic Majesty: a copy of this ode was brought over, and presented to the Queen, by the Prince of Mecklenburg Strelitz (second brother to her Majesty) who arrived in London, on the 25th of January, 1762, and was well received by the King. By desire of the Queen, a house was taken for him in Pall-Mall.

In her private interviews with the Prince of Mecklenburg Strelitz, her Majesty enquired very ardently about all the friends whom she had left behind; particularly Madame de Grabow, a lady of high endowments and noble family, who, on account of her lyric compositions, had obtained the title of Sapho; and under whose care, her Majesty, when her Serene Highness, had been chiefly educated. Also Dr. Genzmer, a Lutheran divine, who was called from Stargard to Strelitz, for the purpose of instructing her Serene Highness in the German and Italian languages: her Majesty was now told that the learned doctor immediately left Strelitz on her departure for England.

In the mornings her Majesty applied herself to needle-work, and to the perusal of the best English authors, for the purpose of obtaining a competent knowledge of the language. Her Majesty was assisted in her studies by Dr. Majendie. She then took a ride with the King, or walked round the gardens till dinner-time. After dinner, she

played on the harpsichord, and frequently sung in a very agreeable and scientific manner. She had commonly a select party at cards, or else the night was closed with a ball, as her Majesty was very fond of dancing.

This year her Majesty sent a present to the wife of the Duke of Richmond's porter, who was delivered of three daughters; and to a carpenter's wife, who had three boys: ever after applications were generally made on those occasions with success.

On the 10th of May her Majesty, being far advanced in pregnancy, removed to Buckingham House. On the 12th of August, she was safely delivered of a Prince. Her Majesty found herself not well at two o'clock in the morning; and, about three, notice was sent to the Princess of Wales; upon which Her Royal Highness hastened to St. James's, and was there by four o'clock. About five, orders were sent to the great officers of state to attend; and there were present the archbishop of Canterbury, the Duke of Devonshire, the Duke of Rutland, the Lords Hardwicke, Huntingdon, Talbot, Halifax, Bute, Masham and Cantalupe, and all the ladies of the bed-chamber, and the maids of honour. The Queen was delivered by Mrs. Draper, at twenty-four minutes after seven o'clock, having been in labour above two hours. Dr. Hunter was in waiting in case of his help being wanted. The archbishop was in the room; and the lords in the room adjoining, with a door

open into the Queen's apartment. The person that waited on the King with the news of her Majesty's being delivered of a Prince, (who consequently became the Prince of Wales,) received a present of a 500*l.* bank-bill. The birth of this Prince was attended with some auspicious circumstances.

Just after her Majesty was safely restored to her bed, the waggons with the treasure taken from the *Hermione* entered St. James's Street, on their way to the Tower. This was probably the richest prize ever brought into England, every private man's share amounting to about 500*l.* His Majesty and the nobility went to the windows over the palace-gate to see them, and joined their acclamations on two such joyful occasions. Besides, there was a negociation of peace (which was afterwards concluded) with France and Spain.

The following anthem, composed by Dr. Nares, was performed before his Majesty at the Chapel-Royal, in thanksgiving for her Majesty's safe delivery of a Prince :

" O clap your hands together all ye people,

" O sing with the voice of melody.

" O sing praises, sing praises, unto our God ! O sing praises unto our King.

" Lo ! children and the fruit of the womb are an heritage and gift that cometh from the Lord.

" Like as the arrows in the hand of the giant, even so are the young children.

" Happy is the man that hath his quiver full of them.

He shall not be ashamed when he speaketh with his enemies in the gate.

“Lo, thus shall the man be blessed that feareth the Lord.

“HALLELUJAH.”

On the 18th' of September, the ceremony of christening his Royal Highness was performed in the great Council-Chamber of his Majesty's palace, by his grace the archbishop of Canterbury. his Royal Highness the Duke of Cumberland, his Most Serene Highness, the reigning Duke of Mecklenburg Strelitz (represented by the Duke of Devonshire, lord-chamberlain of his Majesty's household,) being godfathers; and Her Royal Highness the Princess-dowager of Wales being godmother.

The young Prince was named *Georgè Augustus Frederick*.

The following were the attendants on His Royal Highness, the Prince of Wales: *Governess, Lady Charlotte Finch*; deputy-governess, *Mrs. Henrietta Coultsworth*; wet-nurse, *Mrs. Scott*; dry-nurse, *Mrs. Chapman*; necessary woman, *Mrs. Dodson*; rockers, *Jane Simpson* and *Catherine Johnson*.

Though it was the intention of the Queen to suckle her children, a wet-nurse was provided in case her Majesty had not a sufficient supply of milk. This was the case. However, she kept the Prince of Wales longer to her breast than any of her other children, which certainly accounts for his being her most favourite son. For this maternal

act, her Majesty was greatly admired and commended by all the writers of the day.

The Right Honourable the Lord Mayor, Aldermen, and Commons of the city of London, the two Universities, &c. presented addresses to his Majesty on this joyful occasion; that of the city of London was as follows:—

“ Most Gracious Sovereign,

“ We, your Majesty’s ever dutiful and loyal subjects, the Lord-Mayor, Aldermen, and Commons of your city of London, in Common-Council assembled, humbly beg leave to embrace this earliest opportunity of congratulating your Majesty upon the safe and happy delivery of the Queen, and the auspicious birth of a Prince.

“ So important an event, and upon a day ever sacred to liberty and these kingdoms, fills us with the most grateful sentiments of the Divine goodness, that had thus early crowned your Majesty’s domestic happiness, and opened to your people the agreeable prospect of permanence and stability to the blessings they derive from the wisdom and steadiness of your Majesty’s glorious reign.

“ May the same gracious Providence soon restore your Majesty’s most amiable and beloved consort, and give perfect health and length of days, to the royal infant.

“ Long, very long, may your Majesty live, the guardian, the protector, the ornament and delight of Great Britain; and, by your instructions and example, form the mind of your royal son to the

government of a free, brave, and generous people; and, in the fulness of time, may that son succeed to the virtues, as well as to the throne of his royal father; and preserve, for a long succession of years, the glory, happiness, and prosperity of his country."

To this address, his Majesty returned the following answer:

"I receive, with the greatest pleasure, these very affectionate expressions of your duty and attachment to me, and to my family; and thank you for your congratulations upon an event so interesting to me, and to the future welfare of my people; with which my own happiness, upon this and every other occasion, is inseparably connected. The city of London may always depend upon my constant favour and protection."

Her Majesty was soon able to go to Windsor, where she frequently appeared on the terrace with the King; and, on the 25th of Sept. the King and Queen visited Eton College, attended by the lords and ladies of the court. They were waited on by the provosts and fellows at the great gates of the college, and conducted into the school, where the masters were prepared to receive them, with the scholars standing in their places to the number of 500. Their Majesties passed between them to their chairs, at the upper end of the school; and, being seated, the company standing behind their chairs, one of the scholars advanced from his place into the middle of the school, and addressed

the King in English, which was graciously received by his Majesty.

Their Majesties then visited the long-chamber or dormitory. In the interim, the masters and scholars went into the chapel and took their places there. On their Majesties coming into the chapel, a solemn piece of music was performed on the organ, accompanied with many other instruments. Their Majesties walked the whole length of the chapel to the rails of the communion-table, viewing the scholars on each side, and expressed great satisfaction at the sight. From thence they went to the hall and to the library, where many of the young noblemen were presented to them; and the valuable collection of drawings, &c. belonging to the college, being carried into the election-chamber, a room adjoining, their Majesties were pleased to spend a considerable time in examining what was worthy of notice. On their going down from the provost's lodge into the quadrangle, the whole school was drawn up in several lines to receive their Majesties, and saluted them, as they went into their chaise, with a joyful cry of "Vivant Rex et Regina."

The lord-chamberlain, by his Majesty's order, gave 230*l.* to be disposed of as the provost and masters of the school thought best.

The addresses from the Houses of Lords and Commons, November the 12th, expressed their sincere congratulations on the birth of an heir to the crown. That of the House of Commons also con-

gratulated his Majesty on the recovery of his royal consort, "endeared to this country not only by this important event, but by her own personal virtues." His Majesty, in his answer, declared, "I receive your congratulations on the birth of the Prince, my son, as a fresh proof of your attachment to my person, and of your regard for the Queen."

In December her Majesty was pleased to give 100*l.* towards enlarging the chapel of the Asylum for Female Orphans.

On the 25th, the King and Queen, preceded by the heralds, &c. went to the Chapel-royal, and, with others of the royal family, received the sacrament from the hands of the bishop of London, and afterwards made their offerings at the altar, for the benefit of the poor, in several purses.

In 1768, the 18th of January was celebrated at court as her Majesty's birth-day, in order to give people in trade the better opportunity of benefitting by the great expense usual on these occasions. Another of her Majesty's brothers arrived in London, and the two Princes of Mecklenburg went to a ball and supper given by the Lord-Mayor on the 4th of February. On the 22d, these Princes set out from their house in Pall-Mall for Germany.

On the 6th of June great rejoicings were made at the Queen's house, in honour of his Majesty's birth-day, which had been previously kept on the 4th. A most magnificent temple and bridge, finely illuminated with about 4000 glass lamps, were

erected in the garden. The painting on the front of the temple, represented the King giving peace to all parts of the earth. At his Majesty's feet were the trophies of the numerous conquests made by Britain; and beneath them a groupe of figures, representing Envy, Malice, Detraction, &c. tumbling headlong, like the fallen angels in Milton. In the front of the temple was a magnificent orchestra, with about 50 of the most eminent performers; but, what rendered this entertainment most extraordinary was, that all the machinery, paintings, lights, &c. were designed and fixed by her Majesty's direction in so private a manner, in the small space of two days, that his Majesty was wholly unacquainted with it. The Queen had contrived to detain the King at St. James's, and the first intimation his Majesty had of this most elegant test of conjugal affection, was the suddenly throwing back the window-shutters of her Majesty's palace, when his Majesty entered the apartments between nine and ten o'clock. The King was highly delighted with this unexpected testimony of his consort's love and respect. Most of the royal family were present, and a cold supper of upwards of 100 dishes, with an illuminated dessert, was also provided.

An ode, suitable to the happy occasion, written and set to music by Dr. Boyce, was performed by a select band.

The following two songs (which were written, though not avowedly on this occasion, by her

Majesty, who had at this time attained a perfect knowledge of the English language,) were also sung at this entertainment :

SONG.

To peace and love, in courts but seldom seen,
 This smiling day has sacred been ;
 And may they here united reign,
 While winter chills, or summer warms the plain !
 May SHE, whose duty is her joy,
 Still, still on tasks of love her hours employ,
 To cheer her King—to charm her friend—
 On his and Britain's hope with pleasure tend !
 That lovely, that unfolding rose,
 With care to watch, and cherish as he grows,
 While, with a mother's soft surprise,
 SHE sees in him renewed, his parent rise.

SECOND SONG.

Let harmony reign,
 And let pleasure abound ;
 While in sparkling champaign
 This health goes around—
 The King !—may his birth-day successively smile,
 With joy on himself, and with peace to his isle !
 All white be his moments, and bear on their wing,
 In the brightness of summer, the softness of spring !
 May she, who bestowed him on Britain this morn,
 Live long his mild sway to applaud and adorn !
 May each loyal guest that around him is seen,
 Embrace as his sister, whom love made his Queen !
 Then let harmony reign,
 And let pleasure abound,
 While in sparkling champaign,
 These wishes go round.

At the same time, the Duke of Richmond gave a grand masquerade ball with music, the vocal parts of which were performed by many of the nobility in masquerade. The dessert was remarkably grand and elegant, as were the fire-works; which were played off from the garden, and from barges on the river, with the greatest regularity, and (though the water was covered with boats) without the least accident whatever. The fire-works, though very grand, cost only 100*l*.

All the principal officers of the British troops sent to the relief of Portugal, on taking leave of his most faithful Majesty, were honoured with presents, according to their rank, expressive of that monarch's sense of their services. Among those, thus distinguished, was Prince Charles of Mecklenburg, who received his Majesty's picture very richly set in diamonds.

On the 16th of August, about ten o'clock in the morning, her Majesty was happily delivered of another Prince at her palace, in St. James's Park; and the same maternal solicitude was manifested as before. On the 14th of September, His Royal Highness was christened at St. James's, in the great council-chamber, by his grace the archbishop of Canterbury. His Royal Highness was named Frederick, and his sponsors were His Royal Highness the Duke of York, represented by the Earl of Huntingdon, groom of the stole; his most Serene Highness the Duke of Saxe-Gotha, represented by Earl Gower, lord-chamberlain, and Her

Royal Highness the Princess Amelia in person.

On this occasion the Lord-Mayor, Aldermen, and Commons of the city of London, in Common-Council assembled, thus addressed his Majesty :

“ Most gracious Sovereign,

“ We, your Majesty’s most dutiful and loyal subjects, the Lord-Mayor, Aldermen, and Commons of the city of London, in Common-Council assembled, most gladly embrace this joyful occasion of approaching your sacred person, with our sincerest and warmest congratulations on the safe delivery of the Queen; and the auspicious birth of another Prince; firmly trusting that every increase of your royal family will prove an additional security to our religion, and that great charter of liberty, which, in consequence of the glorious revolution, your illustrious house was chosen to defend.

“ Your Majesty’s ever loyal and faithful citizens of London, exceeded by none of your subjects in honest and anxious zeal for your Majesty’s happiness and the glory and prosperity of your reign, rejoice in every event which augments your Majesty’s domestic felicity.

“ Permit us, royal Sir, to intreat your Majesty’s acceptance of our faithful assurances, that we will at all times be ready cheerfully to render to your Majesty every assistance of allegiance and duty, which affectionate and loyal subjects can pay to the best of Princes.”

Signed by order of the Court, JAMES HODGES.

To this address, his Majesty thus replied :

“ I thank you for this loyal address, and for the satisfaction you express on the increase of my family. The religion and liberties of my people always have been, and ever shall be, the constant object of my care and attention. I shall at all times depend upon the assurances which you give me, of your allegiance and duty.”

They were most graciously received, and had the honour to kiss his Majesty's hand.

It should be observed, that the above address occasioned much disputation ; the propriety of the words, “ your illustrious house was *chosen to defend*,” having been canvassed at some length.

On the 2d of December his Majesty communicated to both Houses of Parliament, the intended marriage of Her Royal Highness the Princess Augusta (his sister) with the hereditary Prince of Brunswick.

On the same day, the House of Commons waited on his Majesty with their address of thanks for such communication ; and, on the 5th, the House of Lords did the same. The dowry allowed by the House of Commons to Her Royal Highness, in pursuance of his Majesty's message, was, as usual on such occasions, 80,000*l*.

During this month the fine paintings of the Cartoons by Raphael, were brought from the palace of Hampton Court to the Queen's House, in St. James's Park, where they were deposited in the great saloon.

Hitherto her Majesty refrained from political transactions, though this year was remarkable for the dispute which took place with John Wilkes; Esq. then member of Parliament, for the publication of the "North Briton," N° 45. Remembering, however, that Colonel Graeme was chiefly instrumental in bringing about her marriage with the King of England, that Scotch officer was appointed master of St. Catherine, near the Tower; an excellent place, in the peculiar gift of her Majesty.

On the 1st of January, 1764, there was a great court at St. James's, to compliment their Majesties, as usual, on the new year; but it is remarkable there was no ode, an omission; which, as there was no apparent reason for it, occasioned much surprise; that custom having been so religiously observed in times when there were neither the same materials for panegyric, nor the same genius to work them up. The ancient custom of public hazard playing was entirely laid aside.

On the 12th, his most serene Highness, the hereditary Prince of Brunswick Lunenburg landed at Harwich from on board his Majesty's yacht, the Princess Augusta; and on the evening of the next day arrived at Somerset House, in the King's equipages, attended by several noblemen who went to wait his arrival at Harwich. The next morning, his serene Highness waited on their Majesties and the rest of the royal family; and, on the 16th, at seven in the evening, the ceremony of the marriage of Her Royal Highness the Princess Au-

gusta with His Most Serene Highness was performed in the great council-chamber, by his grace the archbishop of Canterbury. None but peers and peeresses, peers' eldest sons, and peers' daughters, privy-counsellors and their wives, and foreign ministers, were admitted to be present at the ceremony. Their Serene and Royal Highnesses remained at St. James's till nine, and then repaired to Leicester House, where a grand supper was prepared, at which were present the King and Queen, the Princess-dowager, Princes William and Henry, and the rest of the royal family.

The next day their Majesties, Her Royal Highness the Princess-dowager of Wales, and their Royal and Serene Highnesses the Prince and Princess of Brunswick, received the compliments of the nobility and gentry, which were followed by congratulatory addresses from both Houses of Parliament, and from the city of London.

On the 26th, in the afternoon, their Highnesses set out for Harwich, loaded with presents from their Majesties and the rest of the royal family, having left 500*l.* each for the relief of poor prisoners for debt.

On the 29th they embarked in different yachts, and sailed the 30th; but, in consequence of bad weather, they did not reach Helvoetsluys till February the 2d. On the 19th of March they arrived at Brunswick.

At a chapter of the most noble order of the Garter held at St. James's, his most Serene High-

ness Adolphus Frederick, reigning Duke of Mecklenburg Strelitz, and the Right Honourable the Earl of Halifax were elected in the room of the late Earls Granville and Waldegrave. This compliment to her Majesty's brother was the voluntary act of the King.

About this time his Serene Highness the Queen's youngest brother was in England, and visited the universities of Cambridge and Oxford, where he was received with distinguished marks of respect on account of his near relation to their Majesties.

The 18th of January, 1765, was observed as her Majesty's birth-day. This (as before intimated,) was on account of the proximity of her Majesty's real birth-day to that of his Majesty's; and indeed the births of her Majesty's children in general would have rendered the 19th of May very inconvenient.

On St. David's day, March 1, Herbert Thomas, Esq. Treasurer, and the rest of the Stewards of the Society of Ancient Britons, erected for the support of the Welch Charity-School, on Clerkenwell-Green, Middlesex, went in procession to St. James's, where they were admitted to see the Prince of Wales, and kiss his hand, and then presented His Royal Highness with the following address:

“ May it please your Royal Highness,

“ The members of the Society who have now the honour to approach the presence of your Royal Highness, do it with hearts full of zeal for the

prosperity of your august parents, the person of your Royal Highness, and every branch of the royal family.

“ United as they are in their sentiments of loyalty and charity, they hope for the protection and implore the patronage of your Royal Highness for an institution that educates, clothes, and supports many poor and destitute natives of that principality from which your Royal Highness derives your most distinguished title.

“ Your royal parents remember no periods of their lives too early for doing good ; and when a few years shall call forth your virtues into action, your Royal Highness may, perhaps, with satisfaction reflect upon your faithful ancient Britons thus laying themselves at your feet.”

To this address his Royal Highness made the following answer, with the greatest propriety, attended with appropriate action :

“ Gentlemen,

“ I thank you for this mark of duty to your King, and wish prosperity to this charity.”

His Royal Highness then presented the Treasurer with 100 guineas for the use of the charity.

The young Prince was tutored on this occasion by his royal parents ; her Majesty was particularly attentive to his instruction, and had proper books selected for the purpose.

The Magdalen Charity was now about to be instituted, and the Queen was not only pleased to declare herself its patroness, but she permitted the

vice-president, &c. to wait on her with a book of rules, &c. They had all the honour of kissing her Majesty's hand, and the following year she gave a donation of 100*l*.

This year his Majesty had been indisposed, and on the 24th of April he acquainted Parliament that, through the paternal affection which he bore to his children and to all his people, his late indisposition, though not attended with danger, had determined him to propose to their consideration such measures as they thought might tend to preserve the constitution of Great Britain undisturbed, and the dignity and lustre of its crown unimpaired, if it should please God to put a period to his life whilst his successor was of tender years. The infancy of his Majesty's children, and the tempest then expected in North America, rendered his Majesty's indisposition the cause of much anxiety to the people. An act was passed to provide for the administration of government in case the crown should descend to any of the children while under the age of 18 ; and also for the care and guardianship of their royal persons. His Majesty was to have the power of appointing a guardian to his successor : the regent was to be assisted by a council of regency, consisting of their Royal Highnesses his Majesty's brothers, Edward Augustus Duke of York and Albany, William Henry, Duke of Gloucester and Edinburgh, Prince Henry Frederick, and Prince Frederick William, (when the said Princes respectively attained the age of 21

years, and not sooner) and his Royal Highness his Majesty's uncle, William Augustus, Duke of Cumberland, the archbishop of Canterbury, and the lord-chancellor for the time being. Upon descent of the crown to a minor, the Parliament was to continue for three years, unless such successor were sooner of age, and the said successor was not to marry during his minority without the consent of the regent's council. The royal assent was given to the bill on the 16th of May. The speedy recovery and continued good-health of the King, rendered, very fortunately, these precautions unnecessary. The anniversary of his Majesty's birth-day was consequently solemnised this year with unusual grandeur, and not a single suit of French clothes appeared at court.

The 16th of August being the birth-day of his Royal Highness Prince Frederick, bishop of Osnaburg, gold and silver medals were given at court in commemoration of that dignity.

In consequence of the death of Francis the First, Emperor of Germany, August 18, it appeared by the London Gazette that the Queen wrote a very pathetic letter of condolence to the dowager Empress, and his Majesty a congratulatory epistle to Joseph Benedict Augustus on his accession to the Imperial crown.

About two in the morning of the 21st of August, her Majesty was taken in labour, and messages were sent to her Royal Highness the Princess-dowager of Wales, his grace the archbishop of

Canterbury, the two secretaries of state, the Earl of Hertford, and several more of the privy-council, who attended with the utmost expedition. At a quarter before four, her Majesty was safely delivered of another Prince, who was on the 20th of September baptized in the great council-chamber at St. James's, by his grace the archbishop of Canterbury, by the name of William-Henry, in the presence of their Majesties, the whole royal family, and a very illustrious assembly of the nobility and foreign ministers. The sponsors were his Royal Highness the Duke of Gloucester, Prince Henry Frederick, and the Princess of Brunswick.

On the 28th, the city of London waited on his Majesty with the following address on the birth of the young Prince, which at that time was deemed a very remarkable one :

“ Most gracious Sovereign,

“ We, your Majesty's ever loyal and faithful subjects, the Lord-Mayor, Aldermen, and Commons of the city of London, in Common-Council assembled, humbly beseech your Majesty to accept our most sincere and dutiful congratulations on the safe delivery of the Queen, and the auspicious birth of another Prince.

“ The joyful event of an increase in your Majesty's illustrious family will always be gratefully considered by us as a further substantial security to the civil and religious liberties of this your Majesty's free and native country.

“ Every addition to your Majesty's domestic

happiness fills our hearts with the highest pleasure and satisfaction ; and fully confiding, that your Majesty's royal sentiments will ever coincide with the united wishes of your faithful people, we gladly embrace every opportunity of testifying our joy, and laying our congratulations at your Majesty's feet.

“ Permit us, therefore, royal Sir, to assure your Majesty that your faithful citizens of London, from their zealous attachment to your royal house, and the true honour and dignity of your crown, whenever a happy establishment of public measures shall present a favourable occasion, will be ready to exert their utmost abilities in support of such wise councils as apparently tend to render your Majesty's reign happy and glorious.”

To which his Majesty thus graciously replied :

“ I thank you for this dutiful address. Your congratulations on the further increase of my family, and your assurances of zealous attachment to it, cannot but be very agreeable to me.—I have nothing so much at heart as the welfare and happiness of my people ; and have the greatest satisfaction in every event that may be an additional security to those civil and religious liberties upon which the prosperity of these kingdoms depend.”

His Majesty, after admitting them to the honour of kissing his hand, was pleased to confer the honour of knighthood on Thomas Harris, Esq. one of the Sheriffs. Notwithstanding a debate arose concerning this address, the King was deter-

gained not to make, by his refusal, a large body of people uneasy, and therefore received it with more condescension than was expected.

The King was also addressed by both Houses of Parliament, and the following was the Queen's answer to a congratulatory message sent by the House of Commons to her Majesty on this occasion :

“ Gentlemen,

“ This fresh instance of your duty to the King, and attention to me, cannot but meet with my most hearty acknowledgments, and insure a continuance of that affection I bear to this nation, whose welfare and prosperity will be for ever the first object of my wishes.”

In the morning of the 9th of September, their Royal and Serene Highnesses the Duke of York, and the hereditary Prince and Princess of Brunswick, landed from Holland at Harwich, from whence the Duke of York came to London the same day. The next evening at eight the Prince and Princess of Brunswick arrived at the Queen's palace, where they were received by their Majesties, the Princess-dowager of Wales, and others of the royal family. After staying about an hour at the palace, their Highnesses went to the apartments at St. James's, which the Duke of Cumberland had possessed; where they supped in company with her Royal Highness the Princess-dowager, the Dukes of York and Gloucester, and others of the royal family.

Between seven and eight o'clock in the evening his Royal Highness the Duke of Cumberland died suddenly at his house in Upper Grosvenor Street. His Royal Highness was at court in the morning, dined with Lord Albemarle in the afternoon, and drank tea with the Princess of Brunswick at St. James's; from whence he came to his own house in the evening to be present at a council to be held on affairs of state. As soon as he came in, he complained of a pain in the shoulder, with a cold and shivering fit, and desired to be laid on the couch, which was done; and Sir Charles Winttingham (the King's physician) being sent for, prescribed bleeding; but, in about twenty minutes, his Royal Highness expired without a struggle.

Their Majesties and the rest of the royal family mourned for him as a most affectionate uncle and brother. Born with all the talents that could be wished for in so elevated a station, he very early, under a mother fond of letters, and a father allowed to have been one of the best soldiers in Europe, added learning to his natural good taste, and knowledge in arms to his innate bravery.

He was also remarkable for his acts of benevolence, having given about 6000*l.* a-year away in private charity, and was the great encourager of all plans that promised to be attended with national advantage. The greatest part of that large revenue settled on him by his country as a reward for his services, he returned into her bosom, by his annual donations, and by constantly employing

a great number of hands in the adorning of Windsor Park. In doing this he revived the old English hospitality without interfering with that spirit of frugality which trade requires; the workmen had only common wages, but bread and beer daily, and on stated days extraordinary refreshments.

On the 29th of December, between three and four o'clock in the afternoon, his Royal Highness prince Frederick William, his Majesty's youngest brother, died, to the great grief of their Majesties and all the royal family.

In the beginning of the year 1766, orders were given for building a new chapel at the Queen's Palace for performing divine service, which were immediately carried into execution.

There was a very numerous court at St. James's, Feb. 9, to compliment his Majesty on his recovery from his late indisposition, and also to congratulate him on the safe delivery of the Princess of Brunswick, his sister, of a prince. The twentieth of February being the day appointed this year for observing her Majesty's birth-day, the ode composed for the New Year, and postponed on account of the death of His Royal Highness Prince Frederick William, was performed in the great council chamber, St. James's, before their Majesties, who received the compliments of the nobility, foreign ministers, and gentry, on the occasion. The court was extremely brilliant, and a great number of the ladies were dressed in rich silks, manufactured in Spitalfields, some of which cost 36*l.* per

yard. The Prince of Wales and Bishop of Osnaburgh were at Court. At night there was a ball, which was opened by his Royal Highness the Duke of York and Princess Louisa Anne; minuets were danced till about 11 o'clock, when their Majesties withdrew. The country dances continued till past two, when the rest of the royal family and nobility retired. One lady of quality, it is said, was ornamented with jewels to the value of 50,000*l*. Their Majesties were also in possession of very costly jewels; the Queen, however, always appeared plain on the celebration of her own birthdays; but on the King's, her appearance was remarkably brilliant. Mr. Cox, of Shoe Lane, was the principal jeweller in London at this time; he had the honour of frequent interviews with their Majesties, and particularly this year, for the purpose of showing them a most exquisite piece of workmanship which was ordered by a nabob in the East Indies. Their Majesties expressed the highest satisfaction at the taste and execution of the ornaments, and spent several hours in examining them. At this time the Jewellery business was in its most flourishing state. The Queen was also very attentive to the moral decency and necessary punctilioes of her court. It is said that a certain lady begged leave to introduce Lady —, which was peremptorily refused by her Majesty. The lady then observed, that she did not know what she should say to her disappointed friend:—"Tell her," said the Queen, "*You dare not ask me.*"

This anecdote has certainly been embellished by her Majesty's panegyrists. The Queen could never have wished any person to have deviated from truth : and being of a candid disposition, it is most likely that she said (if such a thing occurred,) "*Tell her I don't want her company.*"

On the 3rd of March, their Royal Highnesses the Prince of Wales and Bishop of Osnaburgh were inoculated for the small-pox, by Pennel Hawkins, Esq. serjeant surgeon extraordinary to his Majesty, and surgeon to her Majesty and the household, in the presence of their Majesties, and his Majesty's serjeant surgeon, Cæsar Hawkins, Esq. Sir Clifford Witringham, Sir William Duncan, and John Pringle, Esq. physicians.

On the 11th of March the young Prince of Brunswick was baptized at St. James's, by his Grace the archbishop of Canterbury, by the name of Charles George Augustus. Their Majesties, his Royal Highness the Duke of York, and the Princess Dowager of Wales, were sponsors.

His Majesty's birth-day occasioned great rejoicings this year, on account of his having given his royal assent to a bill for the prohibition of the importation of French silks. The court was exceedingly crowded and brilliant : the ball was opened by his Royal Highness the Duke of York and the Princess Louisa Anne, and not a single article of French manufacture was seen in the magnificent dresses displayed by the nobility on this occasion.

Early in the morning of the 29th of September, her Majesty was taken in labour at her palace ; on which messages were dispatched to her Royal Highness the Princess Dowager of Wales, the archbishop of Canterbury, the two Secretaries of State, and others of the privy council, who attended with all possible expedition ; and her Majesty was safely delivered of a princess, between 6 and 7 o'clock. On these occasions the names of three wet nurses were always received for fear of any disappointment through a miscarriage or non-delivery : applications were constantly made for this situation : and the child of the successful candidate was put to nurse at the Queen's expence : if a male, two hundred a year was fixed on him, and if a female, one hundred. This situation was worth at least 500*l.* exclusive of presents, and none but respectable characters were appointed. The news of her Majesty's safe delivery of the first princess was communicated to the public by the firing of the Tower guns at noon, which was followed by the ringing of bells, and other demonstrations of joy.

At half an hour after seven in the evening, her Royal Highness Princess Caroline Matilda, his Majesty's sister, was married, by proxy, with the King of Denmark, at the Chapel Royal, St. James's, Oct. 1. His Royal Highness the Duke of York was proxy for the King of Denmark, and the ceremony was performed by his grace the archbishop of Canterbury. Her Majesty was

dressed in a bloom colour, with white flowers. Next morning, at a quarter after six, she set out from Carlton House for Harwich, accompanied by his Royal Highness the Duke of Gloucester, Right Hon. Lady Mary Boothby, and Count de Bothmar, his Majesty's vice-chamberlain, in a train of three coaches, escorted by parties of light horse, horse-grenadiers, and life-guards, and a numerous train of domestics and attendants.

The parting between the Queen of Denmark and her Royal Highness the Princess of Wales, was exceedingly tender. The young Queen was observed on getting into her coach to shed tears, which greatly affected the populace assembled in Pall-Mall to witness her departure. Her Majesty, with her convoy, arrived on the coast of Holland on the 7th; and on the 9th, a little before nine in the morning, landed safely at Rotterdam: from whence her Majesty set out for Utrecht, in the Prince of Orange's yacht, between ten and eleven in the forenoon. The Prince of Orange, the Prince and Princess of Nassau Weilbourg, and Prince Lewis of Brunswick, received her Majesty on her landing, and conducted her to an apartment in the Admiralty-house, which the magistrates of Rotterdam had fixed upon as the most convenient for her Majesty; and here she received the compliments of the regency of that city. The Princess of Weilbourg accompanied the Queen through the town to her yacht, amidst the acclamations of the people; where the Prince of Orange

again received her Majesty, and took leave. Her Majesty arrived at Utrecht on the 9th, and on the 11th at Deventer. Her Majesty made her public entry into Copenhagen on the 8th of November, and arrived at the Palace-Royal between three and four. She was received by the King at the door of the first antichamber: the nuptial ceremony was performed at the palace chapel about eight o'clock; after which their Majesties and the royal family, together with the principal persons of the court and the foreign ministers, supped at a table of 120 covers.

On the 8th of October the city of London presented the following congratulatory address to his Majesty on the birth of a Princess-royal:

“ Most gracious Sovereign,

“ We, your Majesty's most dutiful and loyal subjects, the Lord-Mayor, Aldermen, and Commons of the city of London, in Common-Council assembled, with the most zealous ardour and affection embrace the earliest opportunity of approaching the throne of the best of Princes, with our joyful congratulations on every event pleasing to your Majesty, and salutary to your kingdoms.

“ The safe delivery of the Queen—a Princess endeared to your Majesty and the whole nation by every royal and virtuous accomplishment—fills our hearts with the utmost thankfulness to Divine Providence.

“ An increase of your Majesty's august family by the birth of a Princess-Royal, cannot fail of

diffusing universal joy amongst all your faithful subjects, as it farther secures to them and their posterity a long continuance of those inestimable blessings, which they have hitherto enjoyed under the protection of your Majesty's illustrious house.

"The auspicious marriage of your Majesty's royal sister, the Princess Carolina Matilda, with that great potentate the King of Denmark, (on which we beg leave to felicitate your Majesty,) must afford the most interesting satisfaction, not only to us, and all your Majesty's loyal subjects, but also to every Protestant power in Europe.

"Permit us, royal Sir, to assure you, that your faithful citizens of London are ever ready to evince, to all the world, that their hearts and affections are sincere oblations of gratitude to your Majesty, for your constant paternal care, and especially for the recent instance of your tender attention to the necessities of your people."

To this his Majesty thus graciously replied :

"Your loyal and affectionate professions upon the happy events of my Queen's safe delivery, and the marriage of my sister to my very good ally, the King of Denmark, cannot but be most acceptable to me.

"It is with pleasure that I see the just sense which the city of London entertains of those measures, which the necessity of the occasion obliged me to take for the relief of my people : and I hope they will have the desired effect of quieting men's

minds, and removing the distresses which seemed daily to increase."

Though the marriage of the King and Queen of Denmark was styled an "auspicious" one, the citizens of London expressed their *wish*, and not the *fact*.

On the 27th of October, her Royal Highness the Princess-Royal was christened by the archbishop of Canterbury, by the name of Charlotta Augusta Matilda. The sponsors were the King of Denmark, (represented by the Duke of Portland, lord-chamberlain,) the Queen of Denmark, (represented by the Countess of Effingham, one of the ladies of the bed-chamber,) and her Royal Highness the Princess Louisa in person.

On this occasion, the wet-nurse had a white satin dress given to her, with lace and every thing correspondent; and, on the cutting of the first tooth, she had her choice of a silver urn, or 200*l.*: the former was generally chosen. Hence it appears that maternal affection, and not parsimony, induced her Majesty to nurse her royal children—AT HOME.

Though her Majesty's accouchements were attended with inconsiderable pains, yet she so felt for the sufferings of indigent females who were not properly provided for, on those occasions, that she founded at this time the Westminster Lying-in Hospital, Bridge Road, for the reception of pregnant women. She was also the patroness of several charitable institutions; particularly the Asylum, for Orphan Girls, in Westminster Road, and the

Magdalen Hospital, Blackfriars' Road (as before intimated); she likewise patronised the Westminster Hospital, James's Street, Westminster, and assisted in forming an establishment for the daughters of decayed gentlewomen or orphans. A house and grounds were purchased in Bedfordshire, where a lady of high attainments was placed, at a salary of 500*l.* a-year, to instruct the pupils in embroidery. They were taken in at fifteen years of age. The produce of their labour was converted into ornaments for window-curtains, chairs, sofas, and bed-furniture, for Windsor Castle and her own palace.

The first work dedicated to her Majesty, was Mrs. Collier's Translation of the "Death of Abel." Gessner (a German writer) had produced this poem a little before the Queen's arrival in England: her Majesty was of course pleased with Mrs. Collier's dedication; and, it is said, presented her with a handsome donation: the present, however, was not considerable, but very acceptable to a person in indigent circumstances; for Mrs. Collier kept a petty day-school in Plough Court, Fetter Lane, then a thoroughfare, and not inhabited by respectable characters. She had married a German, by which means she was enabled to produce her translation. Other works were afterwards dedicated to her Majesty, particularly Baron Haller's "Letters to his Daughter, on the Truths of the Christian religion," and Dr. Hugh Blair's celebrated Sermons.

On the celebration of her Majesty's birth-day, the 19th of January, 1767, the court was very bril-

light: the manufactures of Great Britain never appeared to more advantage; the whole court being dressed in suits entirely British.

Soon after, Andrew Stone, Esq. her Majesty's treasurer and receiver-general, paid to Robert Dingley, Esq. (treasurer to the Magdalen charity) 300*l.* as her Majesty's royal gift and bounty towards building a new Magdalen house.

The Dauphiness of France having died at Versailles on the 13th of March, bequeathed several religious jewels to the Queen. Their Majesties were extremely concerned to hear that the King of Denmark was taken ill of a scarlet fever; and, notwithstanding it was deemed infectious, the Queen of Denmark most assiduously attended him both day and night.

The King and Queen, attended by their Royal Highnesses the Prince and Princess of Brunswick, were pleased to honour the incorporated Society of Artists of Great Britain with their presence at the Great Room, in Spring Gardens, on the 22d of April; and expressed their satisfaction in observing the several genuine performances exhibited there, and the flourishing state of the polite arts among their subjects.

At a quarter before nine o'clock in the morning of the 5th of July, their Royal and Serene Highnesses, the Prince and Princess of Brunswick, set out in one of his Majesty's coaches for Dover, on their return to Germany. The young Prince of Brunswick set out sometime before them.

His Royal Highness Edward Augustus, Duke of York and Albany, who had set out on his travels through France and Germany, died at Monaco, about eleven o'clock in the morning of the 17th of September, of a malignant fever, after a severe illness of fourteen days. His Royal Highness had danced rather too much at the chateau of a person of fashion ; and this had not only fatigued him, but occasioned a very strong perspiration. As soon as the ball was finished, the Prince gave orders for his carriages to be got ready immediately, to set off for Toulon ; from whence he was distant three or four leagues. The gentlemen of the train, Colonels Morrison and St. John, and Captain Wrottesley, earnestly represented to his Royal Highness the necessity of his remaining where he was, if not to go to bed. The Prince insisted on proceeding ; and, notwithstanding a slight chillness and shivering the next day, he went at night to see a comedy, but was obliged to leave the Theatre before it was over. Soon after his arrival at Monaco, his fever became unconquerable. His Royal Highness, now convinced that he must die, with the utmost calmness and composure of mind adjusted every step consequent of the fatal event himself. He ordered that Captain Wrottesley should bring the news to England, and instructed him in what method it should be disclosed. The Captain was first to wait on Mr. Le Grand, of Spring Gardens, and with him to go to Leicester House, and then to Gloucester House ;

and having communicated the event to the Dukes, his brothers, to proceed to their Majesties, submitting it to the King and Queen in what manner, and by whom it should be communicated to his royal parent. The body was opened and embalmed, and was ordered by Commodore Spry to be put on board his Majesty's ship *Montreal*, Captain Cosby, to be brought to England. On the arrival of the news in London, an order was sent to the managers of both Theatres to suspend acting. On the 3d of November, his Royal Highness's remains were deposited in the royal vault in King Henry the Seventh's chapel.

In the preceding Session of Parliament, his Royal Highness had been granted an annuity of 8000*l.*; and the same was awarded to his brothers, the Dukes of Gloucester and Cumberland, in addition to what they before received out of the civil list. It is remarkable, on the second reading of the bill for this purpose, in the House of Lords, a protest was entered against it, signed by Lord Temple only.

About noon on the 2d of November, her Majesty was safely delivered of a Prince. Her Royal Highness the Princess-dowager of Wales, the archbishop of Canterbury, several lords of his Majesty's most honourable privy-council, and the ladies of her Majesty's bed-chamber, were present. On the 10th, the Right Honourable the Lord-Mayor and Commons of the city of London made their compliments, in which they begged leave "to

express their unfeigned joy on the safe delivery of that most excellent Princess, the Queen, and the further increase of the royal family, by the birth of another Prince." Also, "to offer their sincere condolence on the much-lamented death of his Majesty's royal brother, the Duke of York, whose many eminent and Princely virtues had most justly endeared his memory to all his Majesty's loyal subjects." His Majesty, in his gracious answer, said, "I thank you for this loyal address," and added, "I regard your condolence on the melancholy event of the Duke of York's death, as an additional proof of your attachment to me and my family." They had all the honour to kiss his Majesty's hand. On the 30th, the young Prince was baptised by the bishop of London, (the archbishop of Canterbury being indisposed) by the name of Edward. Their Serene Highnesses the hereditary Prince and Princess of Brunawick, the reigning Prince of Mecklenburg Strelitz, and her Royal Highness the Princess of Hesse were sponsors by proxy.

The 21st day of December, this year, was the first time that prayers were publicly read in all the Popish mass-houses, throughout Ireland, for his Majesty King George the Third, Queen Charlotte, the Prince of Wales, and all the royal family.

In consideration of the tender years of his Royal Highness Prince Frederick, his Majesty granted a dispensation under his royal sign-manual and seal of the order, for investing his Royal Highness with

the degree of knighthood in as ample a manner as if his Royal Highness had personally performed all the accustomed solemnities.

In the beginning of the year 1768, the city of London presented a petition to his Majesty, praying that public mournings might be shortened, which was graciously received, and a great number of Spitalfields weavers, masters and journey-men, went in grand procession from Spitalfields through the city to St. James's, in order to return their thanks to his Majesty for his declaration to shorten court mournings.

On January the 20th, the ball at St. James's, in honour of her Majesty's birth-day, was very splendid and numerous. Their Majesties came into the room a little before nine, when the ball was opened by his Royal Highness the Duke of Gloucester and the Princess Louisa Anne. Minuets were danced alternately by the nobility till past eleven, when their Majesties retired, and the country dances then continued till one o'clock, when the rest of the royal family and nobility retired.

The King and Queen spent the greater part of this year at Richmond.

His Danish Majesty, with 120 persons in his retinue, arrived at York, and proceeded on his way to London. His Majesty was at St. James's on the 4th of September; and, on the 19th, a very grand entertainment was given by the King and Queen to the King of Denmark, at the Queen's palace; at which the Princess-dowager of Wales,

the Duke of Gloucester, and a great number of the nobility were present. His Danish Majesty went to the Queen's palace at half an hour past seven o'clock. The ball was opened about nine o'clock, by the King of Denmark and the Queen : after which his British Majesty danced a minuet with the Duchess of Ancaster. Country dances then commenced ; and, about eleven, their Majesties and the nobility withdrew to partake of the elegant entertainment provided : soon after twelve country dances re-commenced, and were continued till half an hour past four o'clock, when the King of Denmark withdrew, as did their Majesties and the nobility.

The King of Denmark's table at St. James's, was at the expence of the King of Great Britain. Besides inferior ones, there were two principal tables ; that of his Danish Majesty was very grand, and the dessert elegant and superb. The whole daily cost was estimated at 84*l.* exclusive of the wines. A grand and magnificent entertainment was given by his Majesty at Richmond Lodge to the Danish King, on the 24th of September. Her Royal Highness the Princess-dowager of Wales also gave one, on the same occasion, at Carlton House, October the 1st, consisting of three tables ; one for their Majesties and the Princess-dowager of Wales ; a second for the King of Denmark, and 50 of the nobility ; and the third for his Royal Highness the Prince of Wales, his attendants, &c. The Danish King gave a superb masked

ball at the Haymarket, on the 10th; and the next day had a numerous levee at his apartments in St. James's. On the 12th, his Danish Majesty took leave of the King, Queen, and royal family.

About seven o'clock in the evening of the 8th of November, her Majesty was taken in labour, of which notice was immediately sent to her Royal Highness the Princess-dowager of Wales, the archbishop of Canterbury, the two secretaries of state, and the ladies of the bed-chamber, &c.; when, at half past eight, her Majesty was safely delivered of a Princess. The following day a great number of the nobility attended at the Queen's house, to enquire after her Majesty's and the young Princess's health, and they were all entertained with cake and caudle. Two messengers were sent away to the court of Mecklenburg, and also to other courts, with dispatches to notify the safe delivery of her Majesty. At seven o'clock in the evening of the 9th, the two young Princes of Strelitz (brothers to her Majesty,) arrived at St. James's from Germany, and were immediately conducted to the Queen's house.

The city of London presented a congratulatory address to his Majesty on the birth of this Princess on the 14th, in the usual form, and his Majesty graciously returned the usual answer.

The young Princess was baptized by his grace the archbishop of Canterbury, December the 7th, in the grand council-room at St. James's, by the name of Augusta Sophia. The sponsors were the

eldest Prince of Mecklenburg Strelitz, and the Duchesses of Ancaster and Northumberland as proxies for the Queen of Denmark and the Princess of Brunswick.

The Princess-Royal and Prince William were inoculated for the small-pox, at the Queen's house, December the 12th; and their Royal Highnesses were put under the care of Sir Clifton Wintringham, physician to his Majesty; Sir John Pringle, physician to the Queen; Cæsar Hawkins, Esq. serjeant-surgeon; and Pennel Hawkins, Esq. surgeon to the Queen. Their Royal Highnesses had the small-pox in the most favourable manner. The eldest Prince of Mecklenburg Strelitz (now in London,) was twice inoculated for the small-pox; but no eruption having appeared, it is supposed his Highness had it in a natural way, in so favourable a manner as to have escaped the notice of his family.

The ode intended for the new year, 1769, was not performed on account of its falling on the Sabbath.

The Society of Ancient Britons waited on his Royal Highness the Prince of Wales with their annual address, and received a benefaction of 100 guineas.

Her grace the Duchess of Kingston was presented to their Majesties at St. James's, March the 18th, who honoured her Grace, by wearing her favours; as did all the great officers of state. The Duchess of Kingston led the fashions of the

day: her Grace wore pendent on her left shoulder, the picture of the Electress of Saxony ; and, from her example, other ladies began to wear iniiniature portraits in the same manner.

His Serene Highness Prince George Augustus of Mecklenburg, was, on his Danish Majesty's request, signified by his ambassador, invested with the Danish order of the Elephant. The ceremony was performed in the King's closet.

The King, having received a box of diamonds and other rich jewels as a present from the Nabob of Bengal, by the hands of the Earl of Rochford, presented her Majesty with the chief part of them.

The weavers of Spitalfields having been inclined to riotous meetings, and some of them under sentence of death for their illegal proceedings, the Sheriffs of London and the civil officers were actively employed in preventing their assemblies. On the 18th of December, Sir John Fielding attended near the Queen's palace, with the constables and peace-officers of Westminster, to oppose and prevent any tumultuous proceeding that might happen. The weavers had attempted to force their way with a petition to his Majesty, in favour of their unfortunate brethren. About 100 went to the Queen's palace with a written paper, in the form of a petition, praying that mercy might be extended to the unhappy convicts of their body. They behaved with great decency ; and, after having given their petition to one of the pages, in order to be delivered to the person to

whom it was addressed, they went back to their respective homes.

The guards were ordered to Moorfields, but the Lord-Mayor sent his compliments to the commanding officer, acquainting him, that he would not give him the trouble of bringing the men into the liberties of the city, as he hoped to preserve the peace with the civil power.

There was not only a want of harmony *without* doors at this time, but also *within*; there having been a violent debate in the House of Commons relative to Mr. Wilkes. Mr. Burke poured forth a torrent of invectives against the folly and wickedness of the ministers of the crown, and enlarged on the dangerous consequences of the assumption and abuse of a discretionary power in the Commons. The cabinet seemed equally unsettled. Early in 1770 Lord Camden resigned, and Mr. Charles Yorke, attorney-general, a man of the highest professional ability, accepted the great seal, at his Majesty's request: but, in consequence of his sudden death, the seal was put into commission till the beginning of the next year, when it was given to Judge Bathurst; Lord Mansfield, in the meantime, officiating as Speaker. It was reported that Mr. C. Yorke died in consequence of the rupture of a vessel inwardly; but it was positively asserted, and generally believed, that having, contrary to a promise he had made his brother, accepted the seal, and being afterwards refused admission to that brother, when he wished to explain the me-

tives of his acceptance, he was so agitated, and so unable to endure the torture of his own reflections, that he put a period to his existence. The Duke of Grafton also resigned, but not in disgust. The Earl of Bristol resigned the privy-seal to the Earl of Halifax; and Mr. Dunning, the solicitor-general, that employment to Mr. Thurlow. Some changes took place also in her Majesty's household. The Duke of Beaufort resigned his post as master of the horse. The Right Honourable Thomas Robinson, Esq. was appointed vice-chamberlain to her Majesty. Her grace the Duchess of Northumberland resigned her office as one of the ladies of the bed-chamber, February the 7th; and, the same day, her place was supplied by the Countess of Holderness.

The King's popularity at this time began to decrease in consequence of the several prosecutions which occasioned addresses and remonstrances from the cities of London and Westminster. His Majesty rejected the remonstrances, and the following satirical play-bill against his Majesty's *friends*, was widely circulated :

" At the Theatre-Royal in the Cockpit, will be presented a Tragi-Comedy, called

THE YOUNG KING, OR THE MISTAKE,

Written by the late Mrs. Behn.

The principal characters by

His _____	L _____ M
The D _____ of G _____	L _____ H
L _____ N _____	Mr. D _____
L _____ W _____	
The P _____ D _____ of W _____	

To which will be added a farce called
NECK or NOTHING ;

In which the principal characters will be performed
by his G—— the D—— of G——.

Places to be taken by the D—— of G—— (only)
at the T——y, or at his house in" &c.

A riot took place at Drury Lane Theatre ; the following hand-bill having been distributed in several coffee-houses, and in the avenues of the Theatre :

“ To the Public,

“ You cannot be ignorant that one wretch in that infamous banditti hired by Administration to explain away the rights of an-insulted People, is the author of “ A Word to the Wise.” As a comic writer, his universal want of abilities has rendered him contemptible. As a politician, his principles are detestable. For these united reasons, you were pleased to forbid the representation of his play on Saturday, and prevent its performance last night.

“ The author himself begged leave to withdraw it ; yet his party are now determined that you shall support the writer, though you reject the play.

“ This night’s representation is for his benefit. Shall he, with impunity, assume a power repugnant to your own ? If the privileges of managers be imposition, the duty of an English audience must be obedience.

“ Tuesday, March 6, 1770.”

This occasioned a violent disturbance ; one part of the audience insisted that “ False Delicacy” (written also by Hugh Kelly,) should not be performed, and the other part was equally resolute that no other play should be substituted. The

continued noise prevented the curtain from rising till half-past six, (the usual time then was five,) when Mr. Garrick came forward, and desired the audience would be pleased to tell him in what manner he should act. He was then asked, if that night's performance was for the benefit of Mr. Kelly? He assured them that it was not; and said, the only method that occurred to him, of quieting all would be to dismiss the house. This they would not agree to; and, after half an hour's delay, the play began, and was acted throughout, notwithstanding the unremitted accompaniments of hissing, clapping, screaming, throwing apples, oranges, &c. Mrs. Baddeley was so disconcerted by an apple that was thrown at her, that she made an abrupt exit.

On the 11th of March her Majesty dropped one of her ear-rings at court, and a most diligent search was instantly made for it, but without success: a foreign gentleman of distinction was seen to stoop, but it was, he said, to pick up his sleeve-button.

At a splendid entertainment given by the Lord-Mayor at the Mansion house, on the 22d, the following anthem, by Mr. Handel, was performed:

"Health and long life to our gracious Queen, and all the royal family.

"May happiness and glory be the portion of his Majesty, his family, and people.

"Prosperity to the city of London."

Grand martial piece by Mr. Ruth.

"May justice and wisdom govern all the public councils.

"May the fundamental liberties of England be ever revered and defended.

"May the noble assertors and protectors of English liberty be had in perpetual honour.

Full piece by Mr. Ruth.

"May the violators of the right of election and petition against grievances be confounded.

"May the wicked be taken from before the King, that his throne may be established in righteousness."

On the 22d of May, between eight and nine o'clock in the morning, her Majesty was happily delivered of a Princess. Her Royal Highness the Princess-dowager of Wales, his grace the archbishop of Canterbury, several lords of his Majesty's most honourable privy-council, and the ladies of her Majesty's bed-chamber were present.

It should have been observed that Mrs. Draper attended the Queen with only her two first children; for in consequence of her continued inebriety, Dr. Hunter afterwards became her Majesty's accoucher.

On account of her Majesty's safe delivery, a little before one, on the 30th, the Lord-Mayor, the Aldermen, the Sheriffs, and Common-Council, set out from Guildhall with their congratulatory address. In going, after the Lord-Mayor, Sir Robert Ladbroke, Mr. Alderman Alsop, and Sir William Stephenson had passed through Temple Bar, the gates were suddenly shut against Mr. Alderman Harley, (who was next in the procession,) by a mob, few in number, who directly began to pelt him with stones and dirt, and pulled

him out of his chariot, opposite to the door of the Sun Tavern, into which he was forced to run to preserve his life. After continuing here some time, he went away in a hackney coach, with a gentleman who had accompanied him; but not without being followed and insulted by part of the mob that at first beset him. As soon as the Lord-Mayor heard the gates were shut, he sent Mr. Gates, the city-marshal back, who opened them without any obstruction, and the whole procession (Mr. Harley excepted,) arrived at St. James's about ten minutes before two, the time appointed for their reception. After the Lord-Mayor had waited in the anti-chamber of St. James's a considerable time, the lord-chamberlain came out with a paper in his hand, and read to the following effect: "As your lordship thought fit to speak to his Majesty, after his answer to the late remonstrance, I am to acquaint your lordship, as it is unusual, his Majesty desires that nothing of this kind may happen for the future." The Lord-Mayor then desired the paper might be given to him; but the lord-chamberlain said he acted officially, and had it not in orders to deliver the paper. The Lord-Mayor then desired a copy: to which the lord-chamberlain replied, he would acquaint his Majesty, and take his directions; but he did not return until the order was brought for the whole court to attend with the address. The address alluded to the awful *sentence of censure* passed upon the city in one of his Majesty's

speeches ; and his Majesty, in his answer, observed
“ My sentiments on that subject continue the same.”

On the 17th of June, in the evening, her Royal Highness the young Princess was christened in the great council-chamber, by his grace the archbishop of Canterbury : her Royal Highness was named Elizabeth. The sponsors were the hereditary Prince of Hesse Cassel, represented by the Earl of Hertford, lord-chamberlain ; the Princess-Royal of Sweden, represented by the Countess of Holderness ; and the Princess of Nassau-Weilbourg, represented by the Countess-dowager of Effingham.

On the 21st, at five o'clock in the morning, the Lord - Mayor (the Right Honourable William Beckford,) died, and was succeeded by Alderman Trecothick. A statue was erected to his memory by his adherents.

At a grand levee held at St. James's on the 23d, his Serene Highness Prince Ernest of Mecklenburg Strelitz (brother to the Queen) was present for the first time since his arrival in England. Their Majesties went afterwards to Richmond, and returned to St. James's on the 9th of August, when the Prince of Hesse Darmstadt, with his family, appeared at court, and received particular marks of their Majesties' attention. The Queen made the young Princess a present of a rich diamond and pearl necklace. After shewing the jewels to the Princess, her Majesty asked, if she might put them round her Highness's neck ;

which honour being politely accepted, her Majesty declared that they became her so much that she must wear them as a token of her remembrance and regard. The Prince, with his family, took leave of their Majesties, and in a few days after set out for Paris.

On the 23d, a woman meanly dressed found her way up the back stairs to the Queen's private apartments, and entered the room where her Majesty was sitting with the Duchess of Ancaster. The woman took a survey of the room with great composure, her Majesty and the Duchess being too much alarmed at first to interrupt her: at length the Duchess had the presence of mind to ring the bell, which brought up the page in waiting, who with great difficulty turned the intruder down stairs.

The Queen's popularity now began to increase; her Majesty, though she enjoyed a good state of health, was, during this year, taken so ill on her way to Richmond, that she was obliged to return to St. James's: the public were soon apprised of her happy recovery.

Both the King and Queen frequently visited the Theatres whenever her Majesty, as a mother, could make it convenient. This year they went to the Theatre Royal, Covent Garden, to see the "Way to Keep Him," with "Harlequin's Jubilee." On their entrance they were saluted with continued claps and huzzas, which lasted a considerable time, as they were also on their departure. The per-

formers in the pantomime having to ring the bells, first saluted the audience with "God save the King," and afterwards their Majesties with "Britons Strike Home;" at which approbation was again testified by repeated shouts of applause.

Their Majesties repeated their visit this season to Covent Garden, to see the "Orphan," and the "Rape of Proserpine." They were received with the highest demonstrations of pleasure and affection: the music was called upon to play "God Save the King."

The pregnant state of the Queen prevented her visits to the Theatre at the close of the year; though their Majesties were importuned to honour one of the performances of Mr. Savigny with their presence. This gentleman came out as Achmet, in "Barbarossa;" and a lady was so affected with his acting, (or pretended to be) that she exclaimed, "Oh, he cuts me to the heart!" "No wonder," rejoined a wag near her, "for he is the son of the *razor-maker* to his Majesty."

It was customary with the Queen to invite (once in the year) all the ladies of the bed-chamber and maids of honour to partake of a private evening's amusement of cards and music. This year, a lady, lately returned from the continent, finding herself not mentioned, as usual, in the invitation, was so exceedingly mortified, that she went to court, January the 18th, in double splendour, preceded by eight footmen, (instead of six, her usual compliment on birth-days,) all in new live-

ries, being resolved that her last appearance in that polite circle should outshine, if possible, her first entrance into that assembly.

Between eleven and twelve in the night of the 26th, their Royal Highnesses the Princess-dowager of Wales and the Duke of Gloucester landed at Dover from Germany, and arrived at Carlton House on the 27th. The King having been informed of their arrival, came to town from Richmond, and after staying some time to congratulate them on their safe arrival, returned to Richmond.

On the 3d of December his Royal Highness Prince Edward and her Royal Highness Princess Augusta Sophia were inoculated for the small-pox, by Pennel and Cæsar Hawkins, Esqrs. and had it in a most favourable manner.

The 1st of January, 1771, was observed at court as a high festival. Her Majesty was dressed in a crimson silk saque, ornamented with curious pearls and precious stones, a present from her Royal Highness the Princess Amelia. At noon the new year's ode, written by Mr. Whitehead, was performed before their Majesties.

The 18th was celebrated as the anniversary of her Majesty's birth-day. Their Majesties received the usual compliments at St. James's. The ladies made a most brilliant appearance on the occasion, dressed chiefly in English manufactures. The ball was splendid, and ended about twelve. It was opened by his Royal Highness the Duke of Gloucester and Duchess of Buccleugh.

The gentlemen of his Royal Highness the Prince of Wales's newly appointed household met at the Queen's palace, for the first time, on the 1st of May. A separate table was kept on the occasion. Kew palace was chiefly devoted to the Prince's education.

At half an hour past four o'clock in the morning of the 5th of May, her Majesty was taken in labour, and notice, as usual, sent to her Royal Highness the Princess-dowager of Wales, the archbishop of Canterbury, the secretaries of state, and the ladies of the bed-chamber. A little before six o'clock her Majesty was safely delivered of a Prince. This was announced to the public by the ringing of bells, hoisting of flags, and firing the Tower guns. The ceremony of christening the young Prince was performed on the 1st of July, by the archbishop of Canterbury. His Royal Highness was named Ernest Augustus. The sponsors were his Serene Highness Prince Ernest of Mecklenburg Strelitz, (second brother to her Majesty, who had arrived from Germany on the 22d of June,) his Serene Highness Prince Maurice of Saxe-Gotha, represented by the Earl of Hertford, and her Serene Highness the hereditary Princess of Hesse Cassel, represented by the Countess of Egremont.

The following affair happened at the Queen's house during the night of the 24th of June. A woman, decently dressed, passed by the porter with a basket, and enquired for one of the attend-

ants; she went into one of the offices, where she left the basket, and then went through the avenue. A boy belonging to her Majesty's household saw the woman lay the basket down, and being curious, looked into it; when, under some green leaves, he found a fine male child about two months old. The boy being much surprised, screamed very loud, which alarmed several people, and at length the news reached the ears of the King, who desired the child to be brought to him. After viewing the infant, his Majesty ordered it to be sent to a careful nurse, and to be named George. A memorandum was found with the child. This affair occasioned many curious conjectures.

His Royal Highness the Prince of Wales, the Bishop of Osnaburg, the Duke of Cumberland, the Duke of Mecklenburg, the Prince of Brunswick, the Earl of Albemarle, the Dukes of Marlborough and Grafton were installed Knights of the Garter at Windsor, September the 25th, in presence of the Sovereign.

The Queen gave a benefaction of 400 guineas this year, to the Hospital for Lying-in Women in Brownlow Street.

His Majesty, notwithstanding the crosses of this year, preserved the utmost composure in his execution of public affairs. The Lord-Mayor (Brass Crosby) the day before he was to proceed at the head of the livery to St. James's, with a remonstrance for the removal of his Majesty's

“wicked and despotic ministers,” received notice from the lord-chamberlain, that it being unprecedented as well as impracticable to introduce so numerous a body, no person beyond the number allowed by law should be admitted. His lordship, however, with his usual attendants presented the petition next day, but they were totally disconcerted by the cool and dignified firmness of the King’s answer—“I shall ever be ready,” said he, “to exert my prerogative as far as I can constitutionally in redressing any real grievances of my subjects; and the city of London will always find me disposed to listen to any of their well-founded complaints: it is, therefore, with concern, that I see a part of my subjects still so far misled and deluded, as to renew, in such reprehensible terms, a request with which I have repeatedly declared I cannot comply.” The Lord-Mayor and Alderman Oliver, being members of the House of Commons, incurred its severest censure; but, resolutely persisting in the justification of their conduct, they were committed prisoners to the Tower, where they remained till the rising of Parliament.

The lord-chamberlain signified to the Duke of Cumberland, by order of the King, that his Royal Highness’s presence at court would be dispensed with; and it was also signified to the ministers and all the servants of the crown, that if any visited the Duke and Duchess of Cumberland, they should not appear at St. James’s.

This prohibition was occasioned by his Royal

Highness having married, a few months before, Mrs. Horton, relict of Colonel Horton, and daughter of Lord Irnham. His Majesty was also hurt at the private, though long-suspected marriage of his other brother, the Duke of Gloucester, to the Countess - dowager of Waldegrave. These marriages operated so much on the King's mind, that he sent a particular message to Parliament, recommending the consideration of the subject, and an act was accordingly passed. The dishonour reflected on the crown by unsuitable alliances, and the former experience of the great evils arising from them, rendered the propriety of some restraints evident: but it was alleged that they were carried too far in the new act, by being extended to all the descendants of George the Second, who might in time comprehend a very numerous description of people. According to the provisions of this act, the marriages contracted by the royal family, from the time of its having passed, were declared null and void, unless with the previous approbation of his Majesty; but in case the parties shall have obtained the age of 25 years, and give notice to the privy-council of their intention of marriage, such marriage shall be held good in law; unless the Parliament shall, within the space of 12 months, declare its disapprobation of the same.

On the 14th, her Royal Highness the Princess of Brunswick arrived at Carlton House, from Brunswick, and afterwards paid a visit to their Majesties at the Queen's palace.

The 18th of January, 1772, being observed as her Majesty's birth-day, the ball was very brilliant, and was opened by the Prince of Mecklenburg and the Duchess of Grafton.

Her Royal Highness the Princess-dowager of Wales died on the 8th of February. She had tenderly embraced the King the night before; and when his Majesty was informed of her death, he came, kissed her lifeless hand, and burst into tears. His Serene Highness the Duke of Saxe-Gotha, brother to the Princess-dowager of Wales, died at his palace in Friedenstein, on the 10th of February.

The King and Queen, and the reigning Dukes of Mecklenburg Schwerin and Strelitz were sponsors to the new-born Prince of Mecklenburg, who was at this time baptized by the names of George Charles Frederick.

In consequence of a revolution at the court of Copenhagen, Captain Macbride sailed with two frigates to bring away the unfortunate Queen of Denmark. This revolution was effected by the intrigues and boundless ambition of the King's mother-in-law. This artful woman, eagerly bent on securing if possible the succession for her own son, the King's half-brother, left no means untried to alienate the affections of the royal pair from each other. But these attempts not answering her purpose, she entered into more desperate schemes in concert with some discarded placemen, and under the sanction of a warrant, compulsorily.

obtained from the imbecile King of Denmark, Counts Struensee and Brandt, his chief ministers, were thrown into a dungeon, and the young Queen was committed close prisoner to the castle of Cronenburg. They were charged with a conspiracy to force the King to sign an act of renunciation, and to establish a regency, by which the government was to be lodged in the hands of the young Queen and the two favourites. The latter suffered on a scaffold about three months after; but the Queen was allowed, through the powerful interposition of England, to retire from the Danish dominions. She was to have an appointment of 5000*l.* a-year from Denmark, to enable her to keep a court at Zell, in the dominion of Hanover; but her Majesty expressed a wish to return to England. The British King was exceedingly affected by the situation of his unfortunate sister; while his sympathetic consent administered every kind of consolation.

The celebration of his Majesty's birth-day this year was, except the first after his accession, the most splendid since the commencement of his reign. The ladies were distinguished by a profusion of diamonds, to the value of 70,000*l.*

A levee was held at St. James's on the 11th of January, 1776, and while Sir James Gray, Knight of the Bath, was attending it, he was seized with a fit, and having been carried home in a chair, died the following morning.

It was reported by Mr. Mitchell, the English ambassador, then at Berlin, that the Marquis of Titchfield, afterwards Duke of Portland, being on his travels, was introduced to the King of Prussia; when their discourse turned on the divisions in England, and the unpopularity of the British court. After conversing for some time, and expatiating on the causes which had occasioned such discontents, his Prussian Majesty said—"If I were to sit on your throne for three days, I would make you know what it was to have a King." "Please your Majesty," replied the young nobleman, "I do not think you would be able to keep your seat on the English throne for three hours."

On the 27th, about five o'clock in the morning, the Queen was taken in labour, when his grace the archbishop of Canterbury and the right-honourable the lord-chancellor, with other officers of state, were sent for; but before their arrival, her Majesty was safely delivered of a Prince, about ten minutes before six, and both her Majesty and the young Prince were as well as could be expected. At noon, the Park and Tower guns were fired on the occasion. In the afternoon, messengers were sent with dispatches to the courts of Brunswick, Mecklenburg Strelitz, and several other courts, to notify the happy event. On the same day the Lord-Mayor went to court to pay his compliments to his Majesty on the occasion. This was their Majesties' ninth child, having now six

Princes and three Princesses ; and the birth of the present prevented the Queen's birth-day being kept as usual.

As the Lord-Mayor this year gave notice that he would not go to St. Paul's church on the day of King Charles's martyrdom, many invectives against his lordship, for this singularity of conduct, appeared in the public prints.

The sale of the jewels, trinkets, plate, gold medals, china, &c. belonging to her Royal Highness the late Princess-dowager of Wales, ended on 8d of February, when a curious French collection of silver medals of Louis the Fourteenth and Fifteenth were sold for only eight pounds ; and a German prayer-book, with various devices in gold, enamelled and embellished with diamonds and miniature-paintings, &c. was sold for 26 guineas. Most of the jewels were purchased by two jewellers, particularly Mr. Piquet, afterwards Piquet and Rundell, Ludgate Hill ; and, though the auction-room was prodigiously crowded with people of the first fashion, yet, from the then scarcity of money, they sold uncommonly cheap.

On the 5th, the Lord-Mayor, Aldermen, and Commons of London, made their compliments to his Majesty in the following short address :—

“ Most gracious Sovereign,

“ Your Majesty's loyal subjects, the Lord-Mayor, Aldermen, and Commons of the city of London, in Common-Council assembled, approach your Majesty with their congratulations on the happy delivery of

their most amiable Queen, and the birth of another Prince.

“ Your faithful citizens of London, ever zealous for your Majesty’s happiness, and the true honour and prosperity of your reign, will continue to rejoice in every event which adds to your Majesty’s domestic felicity ; and they hope that every branch of the august house of Brunswick will add further security to those sacred laws and liberties which their ancestors would not suffer to be violated with impunity ; and which, in consequence of the glorious and necessary revolution, that illustrious house was called forth to protect and defend.”

To which address his Majesty graciously answered :

“ I thank you for this dutiful address, and your congratulations on the happy delivery of the Queen, and the birth of another Prince. The religion, laws, and liberties of my people, have ever been, and ever shall be, the constant object of my care and attention.”

They had all the honour to kiss his Majesty’s hand.

On the 25th, the ceremony of christening the young Prince was performed in the great chamber at St. James’s, by the archbishop of Canterbury. His Royal Highness was named Augustus Frederick. The sponsors were his Serene Highness the Duke of Saxe-Gotha, represented by the Earl of Hertford, lord-chamberlain ; his Serene Highness Prince George of Mecklenburg.-Strellitz, represented by the Earl of Bristol, groom of the stole ; and her Serene Highness Princess Louisa

of Hesse Cassel, represented by Viscountess Weymouth, lady of her Majesty's bed-chamber in waiting.

St. David's day (March the 1st,) was observed at court, this year, as a high festival. The Society, however, were not permitted to approach his Royal Highness the Prince of Wales, as before; but received the usual present by the hands of one of the members.

On the 26th, his Majesty received the petition and remonstrance of the city of London; the King was attended by a numerous court, and seemed very cheerful; but, before the citizens were introduced, they were given to understand, that they could not have the honour of kissing his Majesty's hand on the present occasion.

About eight o'clock in the evening of May the 26th, the Duchess of Gloucester was brought to bed of a Princess. Previous to the delivery of the Duchess, the usual notice was sent to the King, requesting he would direct the proper officers to attend the birth, to prevent any future doubts; but no notice was taken of the message. The event was immediately notified to the lord archbishop of Canterbury, and all the great officers of state, and a messenger was dispatched to Kew, to acquaint their Majesties therewith. The Princess was privately baptized by the lord bishop of St. David's, at Gloucester House, by the name of Sophia Matilda. The Princess Amelia in person, and their Royal Highnesses, the Duke and Duchess of Cumberland being sponsors. The Queen, as

well as his Majesty, discountenanced the King's lately married brothers ; but this must be ascribed to conjugal obedience. Soon after the Duke and Duchess of Cumberland set out for Dover, to embark for Calais, on a tour.

The Earl of Guildford was appointed treasurer and receiver-general to the Queen, on the 29th of December, in the room of Andrew Stone, Esq. deceased.

The ancient Britons were not introduced to his Royal Highness the Prince of Wales in 1774 ; but the usual donation was continued.

At five o'clock in the afternoon of the 24th of February, her Majesty was taken in labour ; and, at a quarter past six, was safely delivered of a Prince.

On the 4th of March, the city of London congratulated his Majesty on " the auspicious birth of another Prince," and they were all graciously received, and had the honour to kiss the King's hand.

The christening of the young Prince was performed in the evening of the 24th, in the great council-chamber, by the archbishop of Canterbury. His Royal Highness was named Adolphus Frederick. The sponsors were his Serene Highness Prince John Adolphus of Saxe-Gotha, represented by the Earl of Hertford ; his Serene Highness Prince Charles of Hesse Cassel, represented by the Earl of Jersey ; and her Royal Highness the Princess of Orange, represented by the Countess of Effingham.

His Majesty's birth-day was observed at court, this year, with the usual festivity. An ode was performed before their Majesties and the royal family.

On the 18th of June, his Serene Highness Prince Ernest of Mecklenburg Strelitz (second brother to the Queen,) arrived at Kew from Hanover, on a visit to their Majesties.

The Duchess of Gloucester was delivered of another Princess this year, who received the name of Caroline Augusta Maria, July the 28th.

Another of the Queen's brothers, Prince George Augustus, Major-General, visited Vienna for the purpose of seeing the different encampments. It was a custom of this Prince never to lock his bed-chamber door, which gave a thief an opportunity of robbing him at Vienna, the first night he lay there, of his gold watch, set with diamonds; the ensigns of the order of Poland, and his purse, which were altogether valued at 7000 florins. Notwithstanding every method had been used to find out the thief, he eluded the most diligent searches.

This year the Countess-dowager of Effingham, one of the ladies of her Majesty's bed-chamber, died of a fright she received by her clothes taking fire at her apartments in Hampton Court.

Their Majesties, were now accustomed to rise at six o'clock in the morning, and enjoy the two succeeding hours, which they called their *own*: at eight the Prince of Wales, the Bishop of Osnaburg, the Princess-Royal, and Princes William

and Henry were brought from their several houses to Kew House, to breakfast with their illustrious relations. At nine their younger children attended to lisp or smile their good-morrows; and while the five eldest were closely applying to their tasks, the little ones and their nurses passed the whole morning in Richmond gardens. When the weather was unfavourable in the morning, her Majesty entertained herself with needle-work.

The King and Queen frequently amused themselves by sitting in the room while the children dined; and, once a-week, attended by the whole offspring in pairs, made the little delightful tour of Richmond gardens. In the afternoon the Queen worked, and the King read to her: all the children again paid their duty at Kew House before they retired to bed, and the same order was preserved through each returning day. Topography was one of the King's favourite studies; he copied every capital chart, took the models of all the celebrated fortifications, knew the soundings in the chief harbours in Europe, and the strong and weak sides of the most fortified towns. He could name every ship in his navy, and kept lists of his commanders; and all these were private acquisitions of his own choosing.

The Prince of Wales and the Bishop of Osnaburg made a rapid progress in learning: eight hours close application to the languages and the liberal sciences, were the tasks daily allotted to their Royal Highnesses.

Exercise, air, and little diet, were the grand fundamentals in the King's idea of health and sprightliness: his Majesty fed chiefly on vegetables, and drank little wine. The Queen was what many private gentlewomen styled whimsically abstemious; for at a table covered with dainties, she culled the plainest and the simplest dish, and seldom eat of more than two things at a meal. Her wardrobe was changed every three months, and her greatest care was that English manufactures should be provided for her wear. The Duchess of Kingston, when the Hon. Miss Chudleigh, and one of the maids of honour, had often assisted her Majesty's wardrobe, and who was allowed to be the richest Queen of Europe in that respect. The tradesmen's bills were regularly paid once a quarter for what came under the children's department.

The King and Queen, during their daily walks or rides, were assiduous in discovering objects of compassion, and equally ready in giving their assistance whenever distress wanted relief; or industry encouragement. The Queen was not only the *mother* of orphans, having clothed, educated, and provided for 50 daughters of officers in the army, and 50 daughters of officers in the navy, from the age of six to eighteen; but also the friend of destitute widows, to a certain number of whom she allowed annual pensions according to their ranks. The King never talked of state affairs to the Queen; indeed Lord Chesterfield

believed he never spoke a word of politics to her.

The new year, 1775, was observed at court as usual. The 40 boys educated for the sea in mathematics, &c. in Christ's Hospital, were presented to his Majesty by their president.

The 18th of January was celebrated as her Majesty's birth-day, and the court at St. James's was exceedingly numerous and splendid.

Agreeable to a message from his Majesty relative to the settling of Buckingham House on the Queen in lieu of Somerset House, the following resolutions in the House of Commons were reported, April the 26th :

“ That it is the opinion of the Committee that the palace lately known by the name of Buckingham House, and now called the Queen's House, be settled on the Queen, in lieu of Somerset House, in case she shall survive his Majesty.

“ That from and after the determination of such settlement, the said palace be annexed to, and vested in the crown of Great Britain.

“ That the palace of Somerset House, which, by an act made in the second year of his Majesty's reign, was settled upon the Queen, be vested in his Majesty, his heirs, and successors, for the purpose of erecting and establishing certain public offices.”

Her Majesty, Caroline Matilda, Queen of Denmark and Norway, died at Zell, May the 10th, of a malignant fever, after an illness of five days, to the great grief of the British King, her brother,

and all the royal family. The burial expences, private as it was, amounted to 3000*l.* which were defrayed, by order, out of his Majesty's privy purse. The House of Commons waited on the King with their address of condolence on this occasion, and his Majesty "returned his thanks to that House for the concern they expressed for the great loss which had happened in his family, by the death of his sister."

His Majesty's birth-day was celebrated at court, with the usual joy and splendour. Lord Stormont's St. Andrew's cross, set round with diamonds, and appended to his ribbon of the order of the Thistle, was cut from it by some sharpers who made off undiscovered. It was worth several hundred pounds.

His Royal Highness the Prince of Wales and the Princess Amelia were entertained, August the 7th, by the Duke of Newcastle, who gave a magnificent regatta at Oatlands.

The maids of honour belonging to the Queen's household, having presented a petition to the lord-steward for a compensation in lieu of suppers, they being seldom at home, the King, when made acquainted therewith, ordered an addition of 70*l.* per annum to their salaries, which took place on the 1st of September.

Their Royal Highnesses the Princes Ernest and Augustus, with the Princess Elizabeth, were inoculated on the 1st of October.

On the 15th of November, their Majesties and

the royal family came to the Queen's palace for the winter.

On the 1st of January, 1776, there was a numerous court at St. James's, to compliment their Majesties and the rest of the royal family, as usual, on New Year's day. At noon, the ode was performed in the great council-chamber; and afterwards, 40 boys from Christ's Hospital, were presented to their Majesties. The drawing-room did not break up till after five o'clock. Their Majesties returned, with all the Princes and Princesses to dinner, a little before six. The King was dressed in a claret coloured suit of clothes: the Queen in a court robe of silver tissue, and coloured flowers, with a stomacher, head-dress, and immense necklace, all composed entirely of the most valuable brilliants.

Daniel and Robert Perreau, having been convicted of forgery through the machinations of Mrs. Rudd, who was acquitted of the crime for want of evidence, these unfortunate twin brothers were ordered for execution. Great interest was made in behalf of Robert Perreau, who appeared to have been more a dupe than a criminal: a petition in his favour, signed by 70 of the first bankers and merchants of London, was presented to his Majesty only two days previous to his execution.

Mrs. Robert Perreau, and three of her infants, all in deep mourning, went with a petition to the Queen; and, having gained access to the palace, her Majesty, who was passing through an anti-room in her way to the chapel, was suddenly

shocked at seeing the unhappy woman and children on their knees: the petition was held up with tears and lamentations, and her Majesty was exceedingly affected. "Oh, mercy—mercy!" exclaimed the unhappy woman—"he is *my* husband, he is *their* father!" The Queen took the petition, heaved a sigh, and signified that the King should have it immediately. It was accordingly transmitted to his Majesty, who referred it to his privy-council: but it was thought that one brother could not be pardoned, if the other suffered; and, as this was the first conviction on the forgery act, these unfortunate twins were executed on the 17th.

The 18th being appointed to be kept as her Majesty's birth-day, at twelve o'clock their Majesties, with the four eldest Princes, went from the Queen's House to St. James's; and, before one, the drawing-room began, when their Majesties received the usual compliments.

During the drawing-room, the Earl of Mexborough had a most magnificent diamond order, of immense value, cut from his ribbon in the presence-chamber at St. James's.

The King and Queen entered the ball-room at nine, when the ball was opened with a minuet by the Prince of Hesse and Lady Betty Stanley: the Prince danced next with Lady Essex. Lords Stanley, Maynard, and Garrahar, then danced minuets; but very few other gentlemen, to the great disappointment of several ladies. The minuets

were over by eleven, when the country dances began; the Prince of Hesse danced with Lady Betty Stanley; Lord Stanley with Lady Cranbourne. Their Majesties staid to see four country dances, and then retired. Lord North stood at the King's right hand the whole evening. Lady North was in the lord-chamberlain's box. Lady Stanley was the best dressed female in the room; she had a mouse-coloured satin dress, embroidered with variegated coloured flowers, with an antique border on a curious plan. Lady Gideon sported an extraordinary head on the occasion, which forced a smile from the Queen; the lower part of her hair was like a man's wig, and the upper part terminated in a lofty peak, like a grenadier's cap, with a bouquet on the top of all; while the heads of Lady Archer and Miss West were each expanded like an open fan. Two Quaker ladies (Mr. Barclay's daughters,) were noticed for the elegance and simplicity of their dress. Lord Monson was the best dressed gentleman. His Majesty was in light blue and silver, and the Queen in a suit of dark brown satin.

This month their Majesties, accompanied by the Duchess of Argyle, went to the Great Room, in King Street, Covent Garden, to see the "Spectacle Mechanique," (or Mechanical Exhibition) of Mr. Droz. The King amused himself by endeavouring to discover (but without effect,) the principle on which a small figure was enabled to write whatever should be dictated to it. Another figure

drew the portraits of their Majesties in a most masterly manner, which they did Mr. Droz the honour to accept; and were likewise pleased to express their particular approbation of the several ingenious pièces of mechanism.

His Royal Highness the Prince of Wales received the ancient Britons on St. David's day, and presented them with 100 guineas for the support of the charity.

The Duchess of Kingston, whose name has already appeared in the preceding pages, was, on the 22d of April, tried for bigamy and convicted. She was afterwards allowed to be the Countess of Bristol, but was no longer countenanced by the Queen.

About six in the morning of the 25th of April, her Majesty was taken with labour. Notice was immediately sent to the archbishop of Canterbury, the secretaries of state, &c.; and, at about seven o'clock, her Majesty was safely delivered of a Princess.

On Sunday evening the 19th of May, (being the Queen's proper birth-day,) the ceremony of christening the young Princess was performed in the great council-chamber, by the archbishop of Canterbury. Her Royal Highness was named Mary: the sponsors were Prince Frederick of Hesse Cassel, represented by the Earl of Hertford; the Duchess of Saxe Gotha, represented by the Duchess of Argyle; and the Princess Frederica of

Mecklenburg Strelitz, represented by the Countess-dowager of Effingham.

On the King's birth-day there was a splendid and brilliant court; and the ball given at St. James's, was well attended. It was opened by the Duke of Dorset and the Duchess of Devonshire. The Queen did not go to the drawing-room.

The birth-day of his Royal Highness the Prince of Wales was observed at Windsor, August the 12th, with unusual splendour. Before nine the Prince, with his attendants, came to the King's apartments. At ten the King, Queen, and children, attended by the Duke of Montague, Lord Bruce, Lady Effingham, Lady Weymouth, Lady Charlotte Finch, &c. went in procession to the cathedral: the Princess-Royal and her two sisters walked after their Majesties; the Prince of Wales and his six brothers, (all dressed in blue and gold) following with their preceptors and attendants on each side. When they came to the church door, the provost, prebends, canons, and poor knights received them; and, as soon as they entered the cathedral, the organ struck up, and continued till their Majesties were seated. His Majesty, the Prince of Wales, the Bishop of Osnaburg, and the Duke of Montague, before the service began, went to the altar, and made their offerings of gold and silver; Dr. Bostock and Dr. Lockman receiving the same in a gold dish. The arrangement

of the royal family, when in the choir, was as follows :—The King sat in the dean's seat ; the Queen under the Duke of Gloucester's banner, with the Princesses standing at her side ; the Prince of Wales and his next brother under their own banners ; the rest of the children, with the ladies of quality and other attendants, in the upper stalls on the right hand of the choir. The procession from the cathedral was in the following order :—Poor knights, two and two ; prebends, canons, provost, their Majesties, the Princess-Royal, with her sisters and their attendants ; the Prince of Wales and the Bishop of Osnaburg, the rest of the royal brothers, two and two ; the Duke of Montague, Lord Bruce, Ladies Effingham, Weymouth, &c. on each side. The gentlemen of the cathedral took leave of them at the door : their Majesties and the children then went into the castle, and afterwards upon the terrace. The King, Queen, Princes and Princesses went afterwards into their own apartments to dinner ; and, at half past six o'clock, the Prince of Wales and the three eldest brothers returned to Kew.

On the 22d a regatta was celebrated on the river Thames, between Richmond and Kew, in honour of the Prince of Wales's birth-day ; at which their Majesties, and all the rest of the royal family were present.

The 18th of January, 1777, was kept as the anniversary of her Majesty's birth-day. Their Majesties came into the ball-room at half-after

eight o'clock, and the ball was soon after opened by the Marquis of Lindsey and the Duchess of Devonshire. The minuets continued till half-after eleven, when the country-dances commenced ; and, at twelve, their Majesties retired and the ball terminated. The King was dressed in a rich embroidered crimson velvet suit, and wore a most superb sword ; the hilt of which was adorned with diamonds to an immense value. The Queen, exclusive of some rich breast-knots of jewels, was exceedingly plainly attired. Hitherto feathers were generally worn by ladies ; but not a plume was to be seen on the present occasion. Their most capital ornaments consisted of spring flowers and sprigs.

During the drawing-room, a sharper found means to cut off, from Sir George Warren's ribbon, the ensigns of the Order of the Bath, ornamented with diamonds.

The King's birth-day (June 4,) was celebrated this year with great splendour. Their Majesties went to St. James's from the Queen's palace at eleven o'clock, where there was a very grand appearance of the nobility of both sexes to compliment them on the occasion. After an ode was performed in the great council-chamber, the drawing-room began, which was remarkably brilliant ; and their Majesties, notwithstanding the apartments were exceedingly crowded, did not retire till near five o'clock. The King, as usual on his birth-day, was rather plainly attired ; the Queen was

most splendidly ornamented with jewels. On her head she wore a beautiful crown of brilliants, with eleven large diamonds stuck in her hair; her stomacher, bouquet, and sleeve-bows were also immensely rich. The ladies vied with each other in their taste and elegance of dress; but those particularly admired were the Ladies Warren, Beauchamp and Bamfylde. The gentlemen were chiefly in silk of English manufacture. Their Majesties came into the ball-room at nine o'clock; and, after paying their compliments to the ladies and gentlemen round the circle, the minuets began. The Duke of Dorset and Lady Hinchinbroke opened the ball; about a dozen minuets were danced, and then the company rose to country-dances and cotillons. Their Majesties left the ball-room exactly at eleven.

Besides a petition from the city of London to his Majesty in favour of Dr. Dodd, who was found guilty of forgery, another petition from the Magdalen Charity was presented to the Queen. The wife of the unfortunate delinquent also presented one to her Majesty; and upwards of 20,000 of the inhabitants of Westminster signed another, which was given by Lord Percy to the King. Dr. Dodd had been a favourite preacher at the Magdalen chapel, and both the King and Queen were interested in his fate; but the former was persuaded to withhold the attribute of mercy, (as it had not been extended to the Perreaus) and the unfortunate Doctor suffered on the 27th of June.

jesty was informed of Mrs. Williams's application and the cause of it, but took no notice of the affair. When the Queen was taken ill, dispatches were sent for a wet-nurse : but one had miscarried ; the second had not been delivered ; and the third was confined with a dangerous cancer. Her Majesty, when apprised of these disappointments, immediately exclaimed, "Send for the *dreaming* woman." Her card having been found in the rack, a messenger was sent for Mrs. Williams. Though Lieutenant Williams and his lady were in bed, the latter being awake, heard the sound of a horn at a distance ; and, rousing her husband, told him, that she was sure the Queen's carriage was coming for her. Vexed at being disturbed, the husband told her that she was still dreaming ; but the coach soon reached the door, and the messenger called out the name of Lieutenant Williams. Mrs. Williams finding her dream realised, soon adjusted herself and her infant, and in a short time was introduced to her Majesty. The Queen looked at both her and the child, and told her to go into the adjoining apartment. Mrs. Williams was afterwards informed by the lady of the bed-chamber, that her Majesty was very much pleased with her appearance, and with that of the child, and Mrs. Williams's infant was immediately taken away, and provided for.

The Queen, though hitherto inactive in political matters, had exerted her influence, after the death of Lord Halifax, for the Earl of Suffolk, who was appointed secretary of state for the northern de-

partment, on that nobleman's engaging to manage the embarrassed affairs of her Majesty's brother, his Serene Highness the Prince of Mecklenburg Strelitz. The slender means of this family were inadequate to the expences of a British court; and the debts incurred by the frequent visits of her Majesty's brothers to London, amounted to 80,000*l*. The Earl of Suffolk was faithful to his engagement. It must be acknowledged that the Queen occasionally assisted her family at Mecklenburg Strelitz, out of her own private purse.

About this time a woman of prepossessing appearance and manners, imposed upon some of the most respectable inhabitants of the West India Islands, assuming the name and style of a sister to the Queen of Great Britain. She displayed a picture of her Majesty set with brilliants, and several other valuable trinkets. She also showed, as in confidence, a correspondence between her Majesty and herself, to confirm the truth of her assertion, that she had been compelled to the desperate step of throwing herself on the protection of the court of London to avoid a hateful marriage; and, finding the Queen of England joined with her brother to make her the sacrifice of a political union of interest with a neighbouring potentate, she escaped to another hemisphere. This female swindler so plausibly related her story, that many gentlemen made her large presents: but she took care to depart before a packet could arrive with replies to any enquiries

concerning her narrative. When the Queen was informed of the imposture, she expressed a warm sense of the loyalty and munificence of the West Indians, and an earnest wish that the woman who had so deceived them could be discovered, and placed in circumstances to make a better application of her talents. Her Majesty, on this occasion, uttered a sentiment truly royal. "I am certain," said she, "that the misuse of fine abilities has occasioned almost all the fatal events that have afflicted the human race; and to give those misguided people a right direction, by removing the temptations of poverty, is the most valuable privilege of wealth and power! If that unhappy woman be not reclaimed and instructed, she may be the instrument of incalculable mischief, and come to a shameful end." The most diligent search could not discover the pretended Princess of Mecklenburg Strelitz: but it was afterwards surmised by many, that the famous Mrs. Rudd, who brought the unfortunate Perreaus to an untimely end, was the person who had assumed so near a relationship to her Majesty; as she had, after a trip to Paris, long left London, on a supposed visit to the continent. Others have imagined that the impostor was a Sarah Wilson, a domestic to one of the maids of honour, (Miss Vernon,) who had been tried, convicted, and sentenced to death, about the year 1775, for having robbed her Majesty of several valuable jewels, among which was a miniature of the King. Her life was spared,

through the intercession of her Majesty, on condition of being transported for life; and, it may be inferred, that Mrs. Rudd had obtained the miniature from Sarah Wilson, as that lady had been always noted for her dissimulation.

On the 2d of January, 1778, as the King was getting out of his chair in the passage near the Friary, leading to the back stairs, St. James's, a woman suddenly rushed before the chair, and was going to lay hold on him, but his Majesty, though with difficulty, avoided her. The King asked her what she wanted; to which she gave an impudent answer, and said her name was Queen Beck. She afterwards said that her name was Rebecca O'Hara, and that she was born in Ireland, and had been in England five years, and that she lodged near a public house in Red Lion-square. On enquiry this was found to be false, and in order to determine whether she was really out of her senses, Sir John Fielding committed her to Tothill Fields bridewell for further examination. It having been afterwards proved that she was a lunatic, proper care was taken of her. The Queen, when informed of the circumstance, recollected the manner in which her Majesty and the Duchess of Ancaster had been previously alarmed, and gave strict orders to her domestics to prevent as much as possible the ingress of any stranger.

On the 2d of May his Majesty and the Queen set out at six in the morning from the Queen's House to visit Portsmouth, where they arrived

about three quarters past twelve, when they were saluted by all the guns round the works and the garrisons. Their Majesties got to the commissioner's house about one o'clock, escorted by a party of the 3d or Queen's regiment of dragoon guards. His Majesty was attended by the Marquis of Lothian, gold stick in waiting, the Hon. Colonels St. John and Harcourt, two of his aide-camps, and Lieutenant-General Carpenter, his equerry in waiting; and her Majesty by the Marquis of Caermarthen, lord chamberlain of his Majesty's household, and the Countess of Egremont, one of the ladies of her bed-chamber. The standard was immediately hoisted in the dock-yard, and the workmen assembled and gave their Majesties several cheers as they passed. Their Majesties were received at the door of the commissioner's house by the Earl of Sandwich, Lord Amberst, Lieut.-General Monckton, the Commissioners of the Navy, and the Commissioners and Officers of the Yard. His Majesty left the house at half past five in the afternoon to visit the yard.

On the 3d (Sunday), at ten o'clock, their Majesties went to the garrison chapel, where they heard divine service. After which their Majesties had a public levee at the governor's house, and were waited on by the mayor, aldermen, and corporation of Portsmouth with their addresses.

At seven in the morning of the 4th, the King went to the gun-wharf, and viewed the ordnance stores, &c. At a quarter past nine the Queen

went in the barge to the yacht, which lay half way to Spithead. The barge was preceded by Admiral Pye, with his flag flying, and followed by the other admirals and captains in their boats, drawn up in four regular lines, and amounting to fifty boats. The ships in the harbour were manned, and on getting out of the harbour, the guns of the platform, the Block-house fort, and South-sea castle, saluted her Majesty as she passed. Her Majesty got on board the yacht at half-past nine. All the ships at Spithead were manned, and the fleet saluted her Majesty with twenty-one guns each. At a quarter past ten the barge returned to the dock-yard, and his Majesty embarked on board her, attended by the admirals and captains in their boats, and was saluted at Spithead in the same manner as her Majesty. The King received three cheers as he passed each ship. At half-past eleven his Majesty went on board the Prince George, where the standard was immediately hoisted, the fleet saluting with twenty-one guns.

The yacht, with her Majesty on board, sailed round the fleet; the ships were all manned, and gave three cheers as the yacht passed. At half-past twelve the fleet saluted the Queen with twenty-one guns as her Majesty passed by the Prince George. At one the King left the Prince George, and went into the barge, receiving three cheers. The barge was preceded by Admiral Pye and followed by the admirals and captains in the fleet in their barges, and the King went on

board the yacht, which lay at anchor to windward of the fleet, at half-past one, where their Majesties dined. The Queen's health was drank, followed by a general salute from the fleet of twenty-one guns each. Their Majesties left the yacht at half-past eight, landed at the dock-yard, and went to the commissioner's house.

On the 7th of May, at half-past seven, their Majesties set out for the seat of the late Earl of Halifax, at Stanstead, in Sussex, and returned at a quarter past three to dinner.

On the 9th, about eight in the morning, their Majesties got into their post-chaise at Portsmouth, and arrived at the Queen's house at half-past four.

The death of the Earl of Chatham on the 11th of May affected both the King and Queen with the deepest sensibility. This nobleman's infirmities had long prevented his attendance on the duties of Parliament; but the present being an important crisis, in consequence of the American war and the treaties concluded by the French king with the American rebels, the noble lord made an effort to attend the house, in order to defend the conduct of ministers; though his extreme bodily weakness rendered it necessary for him to be supported on each side in going from his carriage. After two or three unsuccessful attempts to reply to the Duke of Richmond, he fell down in a convulsive fit. The House of Commons not only agreed that his funeral should be at the public expence, and a monument erected to his

memory at Westminster Abbey, but also to address the King, requesting he would be graciously pleased to make a permanent provision for the late Earl's family. His Majesty signified his ready compliance with the request. However, the motion for honouring the remains of this illustrious statesman was, in the House of Lords, lost by a majority of one. The bill also for settling an annuity on the inheritors of the title of Chatham, notwithstanding its smooth passage through the lower house, was violently opposed, but at length carried by a majority of 42 to 11.

On the 28th of September, the King and Queen set out at one in the afternoon from Windsor Castle to visit Winchester and Salisbury. They arrived at Winchester about half-past five in the afternoon, and alighted at Mr. Penton's house, where they received the congratulations of the mayor and corporation, and of the master and fellows of the college. Their Majesties supped and slept at Eastgate house. During their stay the Queen held her levees there, and the King at St. John's house. The next morning he reviewed the troops, and went into the tent prepared for his reception, where he afterwards dined, as did the Queen in another tent prepared for her Majesty.

On the 30th their Majesties viewed the cathedral and the college, where they were addressed in a Latin speech. As soon as they returned they set off instantly for Salisbury. They ordered sums of

money to be left for the poor at the disposal of the mayor; for the three senior boys on the foundation, for the debtors in the prisons, and for other charitable purposes.

Their Majesties arrived at Salisbury a quarter before three in the afternoon, and were addressed by the bishop and clergy, by the dean and chapter, and by the mayor and commonalty of the city of New Sarum. After visiting the cathedral, &c. they continued their route to Wilton house, where they were received by the Earl and Countess of Pembroke, and addressed by the mayor, recorder, &c. The next day their Majesties left Lord Pembroke's house, and returned to Wilton house.

An officer's widow petitioned the Queen in favour of twelve orphan children, setting forth her inability to support and educate them, and stating the circumstances which had reduced her to extreme indigence. Her Majesty commissioned a confidential person to make enquiries; and understanding that the widow's statement was correct, she ordered the children to be taken away; and they were all supported and educated at her Majesty's expense. The Queen was afterwards informed that their mother was married again, and that her second husband was in opulent circumstances; and this being also proved to the satisfaction of her Majesty, she sent home all the children to her.

About a quarter past seven o'clock in the evening of October the 8th, the King and Queen set out

from St. James's, to stand sponsors to the newborn daughter of the Duke and Duchess of Chandos. Her Majesty was dressed in white silk, flounced with silver, and a superb diamond stomacher. The Countess of Hertford, as lady of the bed-chamber in waiting, attended on the occasion; as also the maids of honour, all dressed in white. His Majesty was attended by Lord Hertford and the Earl of Winchelsea. The Princess Royal did not go from St. James's, as was expected. The canopy, gold fringe, and tassels, and illumination of lamps in the hall, at the entrance of the house of his Grace the Duke of Chandos, for the reception of their Majesties and the Princess Royal, the rich canopy under which they sat, the new chairs and cushions for the christening of his Grace's daughter, with the chandelier and other decorations, cost upwards of 3000*l.* besides the apparel of the child during the ceremony. The following night about twelve o'clock the child died, and the next morning a messenger was dispatched to Windsor to acquaint their Majesties and the Princess Royal of it. A striking instance this of the vanity of grandeur! How often do we see the poor man's child, who has been christened without any pomp, enjoying not only blooming health, but length of days!

On the 19th their Majesties set out from the Queen's House for the camp at Warley, and arrived at Thornden Place, in Essex, the seat of the Right Hon. the Lord Petre, at three o'clock.

The review took place on the 20th, much to the satisfaction of the King, and the following day their Majesties, attended by their suites, and Lord and Lady Petre, left Thornden Place, on their way to Navestock, the seat of the Earl of Waldegrave, where they arrived at eleven, and then set out on their return to the Queen's House. During their Majesties' stay at Thornden, they were most magnificently entertained by Lord Petre, at an expence of upwards of 12,000*l*.

On the 22d of November the King and Queen, attended as before, set out at eleven o'clock from Kew, and arrived at Montreal in Kent, the seat of Lord Amherst, a little before two. At nine, the next day, they left Lord Amherst's house in their chaise, attended by their suites, and also by Lord and Lady Amherst, on their way to the camp at Coxheath. Passing through the town of Sevenoaks, their Majesties were pleased to stop their carriage at the door of the school there, which is of royal institution, and were addressed in a short speech by the master thereof. His Majesty then proceeded to the camp, where, having reviewed the troops, he remained till the evening gun had fired, when, mounting his horse, he proceeded to Leeds castle, the seat of the Hon. Mr. Fairfax, where his Majesty arrived, as did also the Queen, at seven o'clock. The castle, and the approaches to it, were elegantly illuminated in honour of their Majesties, and the several General officers and Colonels in camp had the honour of dining with

his Majesty. The corporation addressed the King at nine o'clock the next day, and also waited with an address to the Queen. At eleven their Majesties left Leeds castle, and arrived at the Queen's house at four o'clock.

At the very close of this year, a stack of chimnies was blown down at the Queen's palace, which broke through the roof into the apartments of three of the young Princes. Their Majesties got up and went into all their apartments, to see if any of the children or family were hurt; but no disaster had happened, though it was next to a miracle that the three Princes were not killed in their beds.

Her Majesty's birth-day was not observed, as usual, the beginning of 1779, owing to her expected accouchement. Several applications were made for the wet-nurse's situation, particularly by a female elegantly dressed in blue and silver; but who, on being introduced by a lady of the bed-chamber, readily anticipated, by her Majesty's look, an immediate refusal. She had, however, a candid, but peremptory answer:—"Your appearance is that of a QUEEN, and not of a NURSE." Her Majesty was delivered of a Prince, February the 25th; and, on the 23d of March, the ceremony of christening the young Prince was performed in the evening at St. James's, by the archbishop of Canterbury. His Royal Highness was named Octavius.

The Knights elect of the Bath assembled in the Prince's chamber, Westminster, on the morning

of the 19th of May, when several Knights were installed both personally and by proxy. His Royal Highness Prince Frederick sat as Great Master, and was remarkably easy and elegant throughout the ceremony. A gallery was erected over the door of the chapel, in which the Prince of Wales, with two of his brothers, sat to see the ceremony. The Queen, and others of the royal children, were placed in a gallery built for that purpose near the great western door of the abbey, from whence they had a full view of the procession through the abbey to and from the chapel. The whole ceremony was finished by half after two, and in the evening, a grand ball was given by the Knights who were installed, at the King's Theatre in the Haymarket.

The Queen's birth-day was kept this year on its proper day (as it usually was) by the maids of honour. The King's was celebrated at court, according to annual custom, and the Queen on this occasion appeared exceedingly brilliant: her cap was always remarkably neat, being neither invisibly diminutive, nor ridiculously large.

In the morning of June the 14th, Prince William Henry, their Majesties' third son, set off for Portsmouth, to go on board Admiral Digby's ship, the grand fleet going out on a cruise. His Royal Highness went as midshipman in the Royal George.

In consequence of the death of the Earl of Suffolk, Lord Stormont was made secretary of

state; the Earl of Weymouth a second time resigned the seals of the southern department, which were transferred to the Earl of Hillsborough; and Lord Gower having quitted the president's chair, it was filled by Lord Bathurst. The Queen heard of Lord Suffolk's death with deep concern, but appeared quite indifferent about the appointment of his successor.

An establishment had been formed the beginning of this year for his Royal Highness the Prince of Wales, but of a slender nature, until he took his seat in the House of Peers, which could not take place until he had attained the age of twenty-one. His Royal Highness now evinced a laudable disposition to patronize the arts.

The Prince of Wales had made a rapid progress in the classics. In 1780, he read Virgil and Horace with uncommon beauty, and displayed much grace and elegance in the most difficult passages of declamation, not having that rapidity of utterance for which the King (his royal father) was remarkable in conversation. The Prince had been under the tuition of the Earl of Holderness; but that nobleman had observed with pain that a secret influence had prevailed, which he considered not only as dangerous, but exceedingly injurious to him, now invested with the authority of governor. Certain books had been recommended to the perusal of his Royal Highness, of which the Earl complained, as they inculcated principles unfit for the mind of a British Prince. The Earl, conse-

quently, feeling the diminution of his interest, requested leave to resign : the application was complied with, and a new arrangement took place. Dr. Markham was advanced to the see of York as a recompence for his faithful services, and Leonard Smelt, Esq. the sub-governor, (who, at a meeting in Yorkshire, made a whimsical panegyric on his Majesty) retired with a pension. Lord Bruce was appointed the governor : who, for a nobleman, was a very good scholar, but not distinguished for his erudition, nor by any means qualified to superintend the education of a pupil so skilled in the classics, and so eager for improvement as his Royal Highness. In a literary conversation with the governor and the Prince, some days after this new appointment, the student found occasion to correct his master. His lordship's deficiency in Greek was demonstrated by the Prince, and it became a subject of merriment in the palace and fashionable circles, that the pupil had puzzled the governor. His lordship only remained in the place about a month ; and, in order to soften the disgrace of being turned out, he was created Earl of Aylesbury. The Duke of Montague was then raised to the distinction, and the department was filled in a manner worthy of his Royal Highness, and of the British court.

The New Year's day was celebrated according to custom, and an ode performed on the occasion.

The Queen's birth-day was also kept as usual.

Her Majesty was pleased to find that she had corrected the ridiculous fashion of ladies' head-dresses, which, by false hair and plumes, used to be raised to a monstrous height. To the Queen may also be ascribed the gradual abolition of the extensive hoops which occupied so much room in assemblies, &c.

The King's birth-day was likewise celebrated with great splendour. The ode, by W. Whitehead, Esq. poet-laureat, contained the following verse :

“ The genuine offspring of the Brunswick name,
Proved his high birth's hereditary claim,
And the applauding nation hail'd for joy,
Their future hero in th' intrepid boy.”

On the 15th of June their Royal Highnesses the Dukes of Gloucester and Cumberland, having been now reconciled to the King, went to court for the first time since their respective marriages. The foreign ministers resident at the court of London, had private audiences respectively of his Royal Highness the Duke of Cumberland, in consequence of this agreeable reconciliation. At the same time most of the nobility and persons of distinction in town attended to pay their compliments on this occasion.

Her Majesty was safely delivered on the 22d. of September of another Prince : and the ceremony of christening took place on the 31st, in the great Council Chamber, by his Grace the Archbishop of Canterbury ; when his Royal Highness was named

Alfred. The sponsors were his Royal Highness the Prince of Wales, his Royal Highness Prince Frederick, Bishop of Osnaburg, and her Royal Highness the Princess Royal. The congratulatory address which used to be presented by the Lord Mayor, &c. on this occasion had been discontinued for some time, owing to the vexations of the American war; but the usual demonstrations of joy were testified by firing of guns, ringing of bells, &c.

His Royal Highness Prince Frederick was this year promoted, by brevet, bearing date the 1st of November, to the rank of colonel in the army. On the 30th of December his Royal Highness left Buckingham House, accompanied by Colonel Grenville, on his way to the continent. Nothing could be more affecting than the parting between the Prince and the Royal Family. Their Majesties both wept severely, and the Prince of Wales, in particular, was so much affected with the misfortune of being deprived, for so long a period, of the sole companion of his youth, that he stood in a state of entire insensibility, totally unable to speak or to express the concern he felt so strongly.

On the 1st of January, 1781, his Royal Highness the Prince of Wales, was declared of age, and appeared at court in his new character. His Royal Highness however was not yet qualified to sit in the House of Lords.

Their Majesties' birth-days were celebrated in

January and June this year as usual. The ode on the latter occasion concluded thus :

“ Even this auspicious day would wear,
A brighter face of joy serene ;
And not one ruffling gale of care,
Disturb the halcyon scene :
On lighter wings would Zephyr move,
The sun with added lustre shine,
Did peace, descending from above,
Here fix her earthly shrine :
Here to the monarch’s fondest pray’r,
A just attention yield,
And let him change the sword of war,
For her protecting shield.”

His Royal Highness the Duke of Cumberland was a principal dancer at the balls.

In the month of August his Majesty took his Royal Highness the Prince of Wales to the Nore : on the 17th they embarked at Greenwich in different yachts, and proceeding down the river, were saluted as they passed Woolwich warren by the ships in Long Reach, and by Tilbury and Gravesend forts, and about four in the afternoon anchored in Sea Reach. At five o’clock in the morning of the 18th, the yachts got under way, and arrived at Blackstakes about nine. The King and Prince went on shore, and visited the dock-yard and new fortifications. About twelve they left the yard, and returned to the Nore, where they were saluted by Vice-Admiral Parker and his squadron, who were that moment come to an anchor. The Vice-

Admiral had the honour of dining with his Majesty ; and in the evening the King and the Prince went on board the *Fortitude*, in which ship the admiral's flag was flying. The royal standard was hoisted, and the whole fleet saluted with twenty-one guns each. His Majesty soon after retired into the great cabin, where the captains and officers of the squadron were graciously received, and had the honour to kiss his Majesty's hand. The King and the Prince, after visiting the several parts of the ship, returned to their yachts, and sailed for Chatham, where they arrived at nine o'clock the next day.

At this period the distresses of the country were very great, which were ascribed by Lord North and his colleagues to the American war. His lordship had proposed various plans of conciliation, but without effect ; and the public mind was at this time entirely diverted from any other topic.

Tuesday, January 1, 1782, being New Year's day, was, as usual, observed as collar-day at St. James's. At noon there was a great concourse of the nobility and gentry to compliment their Majesties on the occasion. At one o'clock the ode was performed in the great council chamber before their Majesties and the rest of the royal family, and afterwards the forty boys of Christ Church were presented by the president. There was no court or drawing-room at St. James's on the following Thursday, but there were levees on that day and Friday as usual.

On the 3d, about noon, the Queen set off from Buckingham House to Windsor; and as soon as the levee was over at St. James's, the King made a stop at the Queen's house, and took with him the Prince Adolphus Frederick to Windsor, where the royal family remained till the 7th.

The King always gave a present of 500*l.* to the groom porter on Twelfth day, which this year happening on a Sunday, was not observed at court: the present was however ordered; and according to annual custom 1000*l.* was distributed among the poor of the ten parishes of Westminster.

On the 8th, the King and Queen went to Covent Garden Theatre to see the comedy of the "Chances," and the "Choice of Harlequin:" they were attended by the Earls of Hertford, Waldegrave, and Aylesbury; Lady Hertford, Miss Vernon, and Miss Jefferies. The Prince of Wales, attended by Lords Courtoun and Southampton, was in the opposite box. Their Majesties afterwards went to Windsor, and the King having been indisposed with a cold contracted by reviewing Lord Fauconberg's regiment on the 12th, there was no levee at St. James's on the 15th, as intended.

The 18th being appointed to be kept in honour of the Queen's birth-day, about two o'clock there was a very splendid drawing-room at St. James's. Both the drawing-room and the ball were exceedingly brilliant, but not so numerously attended as

was expected. It was a point of etiquette that the ladies and gentlemen who meant to attend the court on a birth-day should be presented to their Majesties at a previous levée; a day was settled in the week for that purpose, and several foreigners of distinction; besides young persons of fashion of both sexes, were presented to their Majesties.

The King and Queen, followed by the Princess Royal and the Prince of Wales, made their appearance about a quarter after two. His Majesty wore a rich suit of black velvet, decorated with a brilliant star and garter loop. Her Majesty, as usual, was plainly dressed, without her jewels, in a *boue de Paris* satin, trimmed with gold, crape, &c. The Princess Royal had a white and gold, with a green spot, the beautiful manufacture of England, superbly ornamented with a profusion of jewels. The Prince of Wales was dressed in a faint peach-coloured velvet coat and small clothes, with a light coloured satin waistcoat, the whole most splendidly embroidered with silver: the seams of the coat were likewise lined with an extensive embroidery, which rather disgusted the eye, and gave an idea of expense, without conveying the least appearance of taste or elegance. His Royal Highness wore a white feather in his hat, which was adorned with three double strings of brilliants to each side, and a most beautiful button and tassel of the same sparkling composition.

His Majesty, having been extremely indisposed the preceding day, was twice let blood, and in the

drawing-room he was seized with a bleeding at the nose, which obliged him to retire very soon after three o'clock. His Majesty continued so much indisposed, that he did not appear in the ball-room in the evening; but the Queen, the Prince of Wales, the Princess Royal, and the Duke of Cumberland were present. The Queen, with the utmost goodnature, endeavoured to make the King's absence as little felt as possible. The ball was opened soon after nine by his Royal Highness the Prince of Wales, who danced the two first minuets with the Princess Royal and Lady Augusta Campbell; after which the Duke of Cumberland danced with the Ladies Salisbury and Aylesford. Among those who continued the minuets were the Duke of Dorset, Lords Grantham, Galloway, Parker, Rochford, Messrs. North, St. Leger, Greville, Lumley, West, Beckford, Hanger; Ladies Stormont, Bulkeley, Talbot, Finch, F. Finch, Misses Woodey, Gunning, Broderick, Murray, Pocock, Asgill, the two Miss Norths, &c. After the minuets, country dances commenced.

The Princess-Royal, in going down the first country dance, had the fringe of her petticoat by some means entangled with her buckle, which occasioned the dance to stop for some little time. On recovering from this accident, her Royal Highness appeared rather embarrassed; but the involuntary blush which this circumstance called forth, added to her native beauty. This incident,

however, gave rise to the following piece of ingenious levity :

SONG.

'Twas at the birth-night ball, Sir,
God bless our gracious Queen,
Where people great and small, Sir,
Are on a footing seen ;

As down the dance,
With heels from France,
A royal couple flew,
Tho' well she tripped,
The lady slipped,
Doodle, doodle, doo,
The Princess lost her shoe ;
Her Highness hopp'd,
The fiddlers stopp'd,
Not knowing what to do.

Amaz'd at such a pause, Sir,
The dancers to a man,
Eager to hear the cause, Sir,
Around the Princess ran,
Lord Hertford too,
Like lightning flew,
And tho' unused to knuckle,
Laid down his wand,
And lent a hand
Her royal shoe to buckle.
Doodle, doodle, doo, &c.

The vestal maids of honour,
Attentive to their duty ;
All crowded close upon her,
The Prince survey'd their beauty ;
Admired their zeal
For 's partner's heel,

But told them he conceived,
 Tho' some false steps
 Made demi-reps,
 This soon might be retrieved,
 Doodle, doodle, doo, &c.

The Princess soon was shod, Sir,
 And soon the dance went on,
 'Tis said some guardian god, Sir,
 Came down to get it done;
 Perhaps 'tis true,
 Old ENGLAND too,
 * Might dance from night to noon,
 If slips of state
 Among the great,
 Were mended half so soon.
 Doodle, doodle, doo,
 Egad 'tis very true,
 * Or late or soon,
 They're out of tune,
 And know not what to do:

The Queen retired a little before twelve, after which the country dances were resumed; and, though some of the company withdrew, the room continued very full till two in the morning. The dresses of the ladies were eminently well chosen, and beautifully adapted to the season: they chiefly consisted of suits of satin, plain and figured, trimmed with fur, or lace and gold, and silver fringe: with petticoats fancifully ornamented with embroidery in colours of silk; or flounces of muslin and white crape, spotted with gold in the shape of pearls or dots, or enlivened with spangles and small tufts of variegated feathers. The ladies

heads were chiefly decorated with artificial flowers. The ladies of the ~~bed-chamber~~ in general were dressed in gold and silver silks. The maids of honour had previously concerted a plan of economy, and therefore all appeared in plain or figured satins, moderately trimmed. The general run of dress among the gentlemen was dark velvets, and none of them very striking. Among the nobility were his Royal Highness the Duke of Cumberland, the Dukes of Northumberland, Queensberry, Argyle, Grafton, Dorset, Marquis of Graham, Earls of Mansfield, Sandwich, Percy, Hertford, Aylesford, Talbott, Poulett, Ashburnham, Fauconberg, Macclesfield, Westmoreland, Glandore, Salisbury, Harcourt; Lords North, Rivers, Digby, Walsingham, Beauchamp, Amherst, Mountstuart, Hinchinbroke, Gage, &c.

Sir John Pringle, Bart. physician to her Majesty, died on the 18th.

The King was now so much recovered as to be deemed entirely out of danger; but he did not personally receive the visits of the nobility who came to the Queen's palace to make enquiries. On the next levee, (January the 24th,) many of the nobility and foreign ministers were present to pay their compliments to his Majesty. Dr. Turton kissed the Queen's hand on being appointed physician in ordinary to her Majesty.

On the 25th, the Baron de Kutzue had a private audience of his Majesty, to deliver a new letter of credence, giving him the character of minister-

plenipotentiary from his Serene Highness the Landgrave of Hesse Cassel : he had afterwards a private audience of her Majesty.

On the 27th, the birth-day of his Royal Highness Prince Augustus Frederick, (their Majesties' second-son) the King and Queen received the compliments of the nobility on the occasion. As this day fell on a Sunday this year, the Rev. Dr. Kaye, sub-almoner, preached before the Queen, the Prince of Wales, and several of the nobility, in the Chapel-royal, St. James's. The ceremony of carrying the sword of state was not observed, on account of his Majesty not attending divine service ; but the King was present at the drawing-room, with the Queen, the Prince of Wales, and the Duke of Cumberland.

The King and Prince of Wales at this time frequently took the diversion of coursing in Windsor Park, while the Queen attended to the duties of the nursery. His Royal Highness used also to visit the House of Commons occasionally with Lord Courtoun and another officer incog. being in large loose coats muffled up.

A solemn fast was observed at court on the 8th of February, and their Majesties attended divine service at the Chapel-Royal, and heard a sermon preached by the Rev. Dr. Kaye, sub-almoner.

The cabinet at this time formed under the auspices of the Marquis of Rockingham, including himself as first commissioner of the treasury, was composed of the Earl of Shelburne and

Mr. Fox, as secretaries of state ; Lord Camden, president of the council ; the Duke of Grafton, privy seal ; Lord John Cavendish, chancellor of the exchequer ; Admiral Keppel, (now created a Viscount,) first commissioner of the Admiralty ; General Conway, commander-in-chief of the forces, and the Duke of Richmond, master-general of the ordnance. The Prince of Wales had given in a list of twelve literary characters whom he wished to have in the new establishment of his household, which caused a great hesitation among the new ministers.

On the 25th, the birth-day of the Prince Octavius, the King and Queen received the compliments of the nobility.

His Royal Highness Prince William Henry, (though at this time out of the kingdom,) having been elected a Knight of the Garter, as soon as he received the ensigns of that order, delivered up those of the Thistle, which were given to his brother, Prince Edward, who was then invested with a green ribbon.

On the 16th of April, the Queen was pleased to appoint George Hardinge, Esq. to be her Majesty's solicitor-general.

On the 19th, at a chapter of the Garter, his Royal Highness Prince William Henry, the Dukes of Richmond and Devonshire, and the Earl of Shelburne, were declared duly elected, and the three last were invested accordingly.

On the 26th their Majesties, accompanied by his

Royal Highness the Prince of Wales, the Princess-Royal, and others of the royal family, visited the exhibition at the Royal Academy, at which their Majesties expressed great satisfaction.

On the 13th of May, his Royal Highness Prince Alfred, attended by Lady Charlotta Finch, and others of his Majesty's household, set out from the Queen's palace for Deal castle, to make use of the salt waters for the recovery of his health; the Prince being at this time in a dangerous state.

Soon after, the King and Queen honoured Robert Walter, Esq. then member for Chipping Wycombe, with a visit at his seat near that borough.

Previous to the celebration of his Majesty's birthday this year, the following notice appeared in the London Gazette :

“ Lord Chamberlain's Office, May 24, 1782.

“ Such ladies as desire to dance minuets at the ball which is to be at St. James's on Tuesday, the 4th of June, next, are requested to send their names and rank in writing to this office, on or before Saturday, the 1st of June, and to send for their tickets the Monday following, between the hours of ten in the morning and two in the afternoon.

“ N.B. No attendance will be given at this office on the day of the ball after two o'clock.

“ To prevent the inconveniences which have arisen from the space before their Majesties, which is allotted for minuet dancing, being exceedingly crowded, it is requested that those ladies only who mean to dance, will send for dancers' tickets, and sit in those places, as the seats have been found too few to accommodate the dancers.”

On the 3d of June, an express arrived at St.

James's with an account of the death of the Princess Sophia of Mecklenburg Strelitz, her Majesty's sister.

On the anniversary of his Majesty's birth-day, there was a splendid court and drawing-room at St. James's. About one o'clock the ode was performed before their Majesties, the Prince of Wales, and the rest of the royal family, in the great council chamber; and in the evening a magnificent ball was given to the nobility of both sexes. There was a novelty in this birth-day, which gave it peculiar charms. Not a face was to be seen in the circle which had ever been seen before. The new ministers brought together a new company, comprehending all the young and splendid part of the nobility, which rendered the drawing-room more superb than it had been for years before. The ladies in general were dressed with uncommon richness. The Queen (whose dress was lilac and silver, of a wavy pattern, very richly trimmed) had a diamond circle on her head, and a most splendid bouquet of jewels. The King was quite plain. The Prince of Wales was elegantly dressed in a gala suit, emperor's eye, and embroidered over the seams with silver. His waistcoat was tambooured by her Majesty, and was uncommonly rich and elegant. The Princess Royal's dress was the same pattern as the Queen's, on a pink ground, but so superbly ornamented with silver crape, fringe, flowers, &c. as to baffle all description. The Princess Augusta had a dress of a pale prim-

rose colour, of the same quality as her royal sister's, but differently trimmed; the ornaments were chiefly of ruby and other coloured foil, relieved with a delicate silver crape, small tassels, &c. The Princess Royal received the compliments of the nobility, and the royal children were all shewn at the windows. The ball-room was not very crowded. Their Majesties entered about nine o'clock, when the minuets began. His Royal Highness the Prince of Wales opened the ball with the Princess Royal; after which several other minuets were danced by the Duke of Cumberland and the nobility of both sexes. The country-dances began about eleven o'clock, which were composed of nine couple; at the head of these stood the Prince of Wales, the Duke of Cumberland, Princess Royal, and Princess Augusta for the first time: the other dancers were Lady Augusta Campbell, Miss Pitt, the two Miss Thynnes, Miss Asgill, &c.—The Duke of Dorset, Lords Rochford, Lewisham, Parker, Maynard, Mr. Legge, Colonel St. Ledger, Mr. Bridgeman, &c. Their Majesties retired about eleven o'clock, and the dancing ceased about twelve. The Duke of Manchester performed the duties of his new office with the most polished address, and was allowed to be infinitely superior to his predecessor.

On the 7th the royal family removed from the Queen's House to Windsor, after having received the unpleasant intelligence of the death of Princess Frederica Carolina Louisa of Hesse Darm-

stadt, wife of Prince Charles of Mecklenburg Strelitz, brother to the Queen. Notwithstanding this, the death of her sister Princess Sophia, and the serious indisposition of Prince Alfred, we find that her Majesty accompanied the King on a visit to Lord Boston at his seat at Hedson, near Beaconsfield, Bucks, June the 15th, and soon after, June the 20th, their Majesties and the Prince of Wales visited the Duchess Dowager of Portland at her seat at Bulstrode, in Bucks. It must be observed, however, that the Queen made incessant enquiries after the health of Prince Alfred, and sometimes received flattering accounts. He was attended by Dr. Hunter, physician extraordinary to her Majesty. A month's mourning had been ordered for the demise of her Majesty's sister, and the same for that of her Majesty's brother's wife. The hopes of Prince Alfred's recovery were fallacious; his Royal Highness died on the 20th of August. Between six and seven in the morning of the 27th, his remains were privately interred in Westminster Abbey. The body was brought from Buckingham House in a coach and six, attended by two noblemen, and followed by the Lord Chamberlain and four other noblemen, and another coach and six: after which followed the empty coaches of the above noblemen. When the body arrived at the Abbey door, it was taken out and supported to the vault by four yeomen, the Lord Chamberlain, with his white wand, and the six noblemen following. The funeral ceremony was performed by

the Dean of Westminster. The royal vault is underneath the body of King Henry the VIIIth's chapel, which is a distinct building from Westminster Abbey, situated to the east, but so neatly joined with the Abbey, that on a superficial view it appears to belong to the same building. The vault was prepared in 1737, on the death of Queen Caroline, for the reception of the present royal family. It consists of a double range of arched chambers, three on each side, open to the middle walk between them. This middle walk terminates with the principal vault in front, where, in a large marble sarcophagus, lie the two coffins of George II. and his Queen Caroline; the side boards of which were, by the express command of George II. so constructed as to be removed in order that their dust might intermingle. The coffin of their Majesties' infant son, Prince Alfred, lay near those of the King's deceased relatives.

This is the first child that their Majesties lost, which, according to the old saying of the nursery, rendered the Queen a proper mother, and it must be acknowledged that her Majesty was exceedingly affected.

The Grand Duke and Duchess of Russia having been on a tour, the cabinet of England came to a resolution, at the suggestion of the Marquis of Rockingham, to give them a formal invitation, by letter from the King and Queen, to come to London in their way from Paris to Petersburg. This intention was laid aside, owing to the death of the

Marquis of Rockingham, when the Earl of Shelburne was declared the first lord of the Treasury. The earl's acceptance of this high office, without any previous communication with his colleagues, was considered by the Rockingham party as equivalent to a declaration of political hostility. Accordingly Mr. Fox immediately resigned the seals as secretary of the northern department; Lord John Cavendish his office as chancellor of the exchequer; the Duke of Portland his government of Ireland, and Mr. Burke his post of paymaster of the army. The seals of the southern department were given to the Earl of Grantham, and of the northern to Mr. Thomas Townsend, who was succeeded as secretary at war by Sir George Yonge; Colonel Barré was made paymaster of the forces, and Mr. Dundas was appointed in his room treasurer of the navy; Lord Temple was made Lord Lieutenant of Ireland, and Mr. William Pitt, second son of the late Earl of Chatham, was constituted chancellor of the exchequer.

On the 10th of October their Serene Highnesses the Prince and Princess of Mecklenburg arrived in London at the Royal Hotel, with several other persons of distinction. Apartments were fitted up in St. James's for their reception; as the house in Pall-mall, which belonged to his Serene Highness, had been disposed of.

The first of January, 1783, was observed at the court of St. James's as a grand collar-day. The ode written by the poet laureat, and set by Mr.

Stanley, master of the king's band, was performed at noon in the great council chamber, before their Majesties, the royal family, &c.

The 18th, being kept as the anniversary of her Majesty's birth-day, there was a very numerous and splendid appearance of the nobility, foreign ministers, and other persons of distinction at St. James's, to compliment their Majesties on the occasion. The ball presented a brilliant display of taste and beauty in British manufactures: the Princesses took the lead.

The Princess Royal was in a white and silver tissue, with a small running figure across in lemon colour silk, which had a very handsome effect, the trimming was unusually rich, and consisted of white crape, beautifully embroidered in gold spots and coloured sprigs, variously ornamented with gold tassels, foil, jewels, spangles, &c. The dress was ornamented with ostrich feather fringe, which looked like a drooping willow, white satin leaves, intermixed with frivoleté and feathers, which on the whole formed a beautiful garland; the white satin leaves were spotted with that colour most pleasing to the wearer.

The Princess Augusta wore the same pattern tissue as her sister, but the small running figure across was Burgundy, instead of lemon colour, and though trimmed in quite a different style from the Princess Royal's, was much admired for its peculiar beauty.

The Prince of Wales was in a cardinal blue velvet, richly embroidered with silver down the

seams. His Royal Highness wore his hair with two curls on each side, this being then the fashion of the times.

The King was dressed in white, with a rose-coloured satin waistcoat. The Queen (as usual) had nothing remarkable on, her dress was a white striped velvet, trimmed with the same colour.

The ladies, in general, appeared in white, and the gentlemen in brown: the Countess of Shelburne's dress was brilliant to a degree; Lady Sefton's was also distinguished for exquisite taste and fancy; Lady Aylesford's was much admired for its embroidery, which was said to have been of her own work: the Countess of Hopetoun shone superior in the beauty and richness of her laces: Lady Pembroke was particularly well dressed in a white satin, with a gold spot and wave across; also Lady Augusta Campbell; and Lady Elizabeth Henley appeared in a beautiful rose-coloured satin, with a white petticoat, trimmed with gauze, and a painted border, intermixed with an elegant foil of the same colour; the whole forming an agreeable simplicity.

Early this year a change of ministry took place: the Duke of Portland was placed at the head of the treasury; Lord John Cavendish was re-appointed chancellor of the exchequer; Lord North and Mr. Fox were nominated joint secretaries of state; Lord Keppel was again placed at the head of the Admiralty; Lord Stormont created president of the council, and Lord Carlisle advanced

to the post of lord privy seal. The Earl of Northington was appointed lord lieutenant of Ireland, and Mr. Burke reinstated in the post of paymaster of the forces. Peace had been made with France and America, and the independence of the United States was now acknowledged by his Britannic Majesty.

On the 21st of March the King and Queen went to the Theatre Royal, Drury-lane, to see Mrs. Siddons in "The Grecian Daughter," and just as her Majesty was retiring from her box, a man in the upper gallery, who spoke with an Italian accent, had the audacity to exclaim, "Your Majesty had the goodness to promise me one of your lovely Princesses in marriage." The indignation of the audience prevented more being heard. It was conjectured that the man was in a state of insanity, and under that opinion he was permitted to escape the resentment of those who were near him. The peace which had been executed by the Earl of Shelburne having created some dissatisfaction, the King on his entrance received a slight hiss; which prevented a bow from his Majesty on his future visits to the theatre: the Queen, however, always retained her condescending courtesy.

On the 3d of May her Majesty lost another child, Prince Octavius, who died at Kew of the small-pox. The reader must recollect from our early pages that their Majesties had encouraged the discovery of the small-pox inoculation, which had as

many adversaries in those days as the vaccine inoculation has in the present. Indeed some of the fastidious preachers intimated from the pulpit that it was of an impious tendency, instead of returning thanks to Providence for the beneficial invention, and considering man in this respect only as the instrument of heaven. Though Prince Octavius had not passed his fifth year, he was considered very docile, and possessed goodnature in such an uncommon degree, that he was the delight of every one of his superintendants. He was allowed to be the finest boy of the royal offspring, his picture, which was drawn by Mr. Gainsborough in 1782, having engrossed much of the public attention at the exhibition.

About three o'clock in the morning of the 10th the body of his Royal Highness was removed from Kew, attended by General Carpenter and some of his Majesty's household, and escorted by a party of light horse. At five o'clock the procession reached Westminster, where it was joined by the Earl of Hertford, lord steward of the household, and after the service was read, the body was deposited in the royal vault, near the remains of Prince Alfred.

The court was exceedingly brilliant this year on the King's birth-day. The ode on this occasion celebrated the return of peace. The Queen was dressed in a gorge de pigeon lutestring, covered with a silver wrought craped gauze, richly ornamented with diamonds, lemon colour and silver

fringe, festoons, &c. Her head elegantly but neatly adorned.

The Princess Royal and Princess Augusta appeared in a beautiful dress of white and silver, superlatively trimmed, and both of the same pattern; their caps were without feathers, ornamented with a plume each, and a wreath of white and green.

The Prince of Wales appeared in a pale pink and silver, richly embroidered down the seams. The Duke of Cumberland was in a bloom colour. Most of the gentlemen appeared in light colours: it was remarked indeed that the ministry were shaded in dark hues.

The ladies were chiefly in fancy dresses (generally white silk, trimmed with gold and silver), their heads were elegantly adorned with artificial flowers and various coloured ribbons, and in some a great quantity of diamonds. Several of them wore diamond sleeve knots.

The ball-room was exceedingly brilliant: their Majesties entered about half-past nine o'clock, and paid their compliments to the ladies in the circle; after which the minuets commenced, the gentlemen dancing two each with different ladies according to the etiquette: they were commenced by the Prince of Wales, who walked the two first with the Princess Royal and Princess Augusta; after which they were continued by the Duke of Cumberland, Lords Galway, Morton, Messrs. North, Smith, Lake; Ladies Horatio Waldegrave, George

Cavendish, H. Walpole, Misses Thynne, St. John, Broderick, &c. The ball broke up about half-past twelve; their Majesties having retired, as usual, in the middle of a dance, without ceremony.

At seven o'clock in the morning of the 12th of August, his Royal Highness the Prince of Wales went from Carlton House to Windsor, where his birth-day this year was celebrated. About one o'clock on the 21st, his Royal Highness set off for Brightelmstone in a new phaeton, drawn by only three horses, one before the other: on the first horse was a postillion, the other two were managed by the Prince. The carriage was upon an entire new construction, calculated for travelling with expedition.

About two o'clock on the 27th of June, his Royal Highness Prince William Henry arrived at Windsor, and a messenger was dispatched to the King at St. James's, acquainting his Majesty with his arrival.

Prince William Henry's first voyage was to Gibraltar, with Lord Rodney, when he fell in with Langara's squadron, near Cadiz, and took or destroyed most of them. His Royal Highness then returned with Admiral Digby, with whom he went to New York, and was in the engagement with Admiral Greaves and Count de Grasse, off the Chesapeake. His Royal Highness then went on board the *Barfleur*, on the fleet's return to New York, in which ship he went to Jamaica, and

continued on board the same vessel till his return to England. He was affectionately received by their Majesties, and entertained the Queen several successive days with his accounts.

On the 26th of July, Prince William Henry, accompanied by his preceptor, General Buda, with his own page, and two domestics, set off for Harwich, to embark there for Helvoetsluys. At half after ten on the 31st, his Royal Highness came to Greenwich Hospital, in a carriage, attended by two officers, one of the naval, and the other of the military service. His Royal Highness was received by Sir Hugh Palliser, the governor, and conducted into the grand council-room, where he was introduced to the several officers respectively. He was afterwards attended by the governor to the painted hall, the chapel, and the other public apartments of the hospital. Having seen its principal districts and divisions, he was shewn the rooms of a captain and a lieutenant, after which he accompanied the governor to his house, where he continued for some time. About half after twelve, his Royal Highness embarked on board the Princess Augusta yacht, Captain Vandeput, from the hospital stairs, and dropt down the river with the tide, on his voyage to Stade in Germany, where he arrived on the 1st of August. The Prince was very honourably received by the regency and citizens. The next day his Royal Highness departed for Hanover, and stopped two

days at Berlin, incog. under the title of Lord Fielding.

At two o'clock in the morning of the 7th, the Queen was safely delivered of a Princess. This was her Majesty's fifteenth and last child. The Prince of Wales was the Queen's favourite son, and the Princess-Royal her favourite daughter. With this *last* child, we may say the *last* presents of any consequence were made: it is true, a gift of 1000*l.* was given to a maid of honour on the day of marriage; but this bridal present was seldom claimed, as the maids of honour were generally inclined to continue *maids*.

Messengers were sent away to the courts of Brunswick, Mecklenburg, Hanover, and other courts, to notify the safe delivery of the Queen, and the birth of another Princess.

The celebration of the Prince of Wales's birthday at court was postponed: however, on the 12th, (his Royal Highness having now attained the age of 21,) all the tradesmen of the royal family displayed brilliant illuminations, and the evening concluded with every demonstration of joy. The King and royal family received the congratulations of the nobility in a private manner, and his Royal Highness gave a very grand entertainment to several of the nobility at the White Hart Tavern, Windsor; a large turtle, of the enormous size of 400 weight was killed on the occasion, a present sent to the Prince from the East Indies.

Her Majesty being perfectly recovered, on the 23d went through the service of churching, which was performed by the lord-bishop of Salisbury. On the 26th, her Majesty took an airing in a post-chariot and four, for the first time since her lying-in. The King and two of the Princes went on horseback with her.

It was unanimously agreed at a court of Common-Council at Guildhall, to present an address to his Majesty on the safe delivery of the Queen, and also on his Royal Highness the Prince of Wales's attaining the age of 21. On the 10th of September, at one o'clock, the Lord-Mayor, Aldermen, and Common-Council, went to St. James's, and presented the following address :

" May it please your Majesty :

" We, your Majesty's most dutiful and loyal subjects, the Lord-Mayor, Aldermen, and Commons of the city of London, in Common-Council assembled, humbly beg leave to approach your Majesty, with the sincerest congratulations on the birth of another Princess, and the happy recovery of your illustrious consort.

" We would express with more than ordinary effusions of joy, our feelings upon this occasion, that providence has been pleased to answer the prayers and wishes of every order of your Majesty's loyal subjects, in preserving the invaluable life of our gracious Queen ; a life so eminently useful, and so conspicuously exemplary !

" We earnestly hope that the throne thus adorn-

ed, may be strengthened and blessed by every addition to your royal house, and that a long and easy reign may be accompanied with every domestic felicity.

“ At the same time we beg leave to congratulate your Majesty upon his Royal Highness the Prince of Wales having attained his age of 21 years, and hope that he, being called to the great council of the nation, may contribute to its prosperity, protection, and safety.”

To this address his Majesty gave the following answer:

“ I return you my hearty thanks for your dutiful and loyal congratulations on the happy recovery of the Queen and the birth of another Princess, and upon the Prince of Wales having attained the age of 21 years.

“ Nothing can be more acceptable than these testimonies of affection to me and my family, on the part of my faithful subjects: it is the warmest wish of my heart, and has been the constant object of my life, to promote their honour and happiness.”

They were very graciously received, and had the honour of kissing his Majesty's hand.

On the 19th, about seven o'clock in the evening, the ceremony of christening the young Princess was performed at St. James's palace. The peers and peeresses, foreign ministers and their ladies, assembled in the Queen's drawing-room some time before the ceremony began, and from thence were introduced into the grand council-chamber, where

the Queen was lying on an elegant bed of white satin, under a superb canopy of crimson velvet, embroidered with gold. On the right side of the bed stood his Majesty, at the feet his Royal Highness the Prince of Wales, the Princess-Royal, and Princess Augusta; and on each side the whole of the royal children according to their age; the great ministers of state, the King's and Queen's attendants, foreign ministers, peers and peeresses, formed the other circle. The service was read by the archbishop of Canterbury. The Prince of Wales, Princess-Royal, and Princess Augusta, were the sponsors to the young Princess, who was named Amelia, in compliment to the Princess Amelia, the King's aunt, who was one of the sponsors, represented by the Princess Royal. After the ceremony her Majesty received the congratulations of the nobility, and his Majesty, after conversing some little time, withdrew. The greater part of the company then paid a visit to the nursery, where they were entertained (as usual on these occasions) with cake and caudle. This royal christening was one of the most splendid sights ever exhibited in the palace of St. James's, it being the etiquette to admit none but peers and peeresses, foreign ministers and their ladies, who on this night vied with each other in the brilliancy of their dress; and in addition to this, the presence of the whole royal family (Prince William Henry excepted) exhibiting a more beautiful progeny than any monarch in Europe ever boasted of.

On the 25th, the lord mayor, ten aldermen, the sheriffs, deputy recorder, near 200 common-council-men, &c. went in procession to St. James's, and presented the following address to the Queen:

"May it please your Majesty,

"We, the Lord Mayor, Aldermen, and Commons of the city of London, in Common-Council assembled, humbly beg leave to approach your Majesty with the most sincere congratulations upon the birth of another Princess, and your Majesty's happy recovery.

"Permit us further, madam, to congratulate your Majesty upon his Royal Highness the Prince of Wales having attained his age of twenty-one years, and we sincerely hope and trust that he will fill the important station to which he is called, with dignity to himself and prosperity to his country."

To which her Majesty was pleased to return the following short but pithy answer:

"I thank you for your congratulations on the birth of another Princess, on my recovery, and on the Prince of Wales having attained the age of twenty-one years."

They were all received very graciously, and had the honour of kissing her Majesty's hand.

In October, George Hawkins, Esq. surgeon to his Majesty's household, died, and soon after, Dr. Hunter, physician extraordinary to the Queen.

At the meeting of Parliament, November the 11th, the following was the ceremonial of the introduc-

tion of his Royal Highness the Prince of Wales into the House of Peers, as given in "The London Gazette":

"His Royal Highness having been, by letters patent, dated the 19th day of August, in the second year of his Majesty's reign, created Prince of Wales and Earl of Chester, was, in his robes, which, with the collar of the order of the Garter, he had put on in the Earl Marshal's room, introduced into the House of Peers in the following order: Gentleman usher of the black rod, with his staff of office; Earl of Surrey, deputy earl marshal of England; Earl of Carlisle, lord privy seal; Garter Principal King of Arms, in his robe, with his sceptre, bearing his Royal Highness's patent; Sir Peter Burrell, deputy great chamberlain of England; Viscount Stormont, lord president of the council.

"The coronet, on a crimson velvet cushion, borne by Viscount Lewisham, one of the gentlemen of his Royal Highness's bed-chamber; his Royal Highness the Prince of Wales carrying his writ of summons, supported by his uncle, his Royal Highness the Duke of Cumberland, and the Dukes of Richmond and Portland: and proceeding up the house with the usual reverence, the writ and patent were delivered to the Earl of Mansfield, the speaker, on the woolsack, and read by the clerk of the Parliament at the table, his Royal Highness and the rest of the procession standing near: After which his Royal Highness

was conducted to his chair on the right hand of the throne, the coronet and cushion having been laid on a stool before the chair; and his Royal Highness being covered, as usual, the ceremony ended.

“Some time after his Majesty entered the House of Peers, and was seated on the throne with the usual solemnities, and having delivered his most gracious speech, retired out of the house.

“Then his Royal Highness at the table took the oaths of allegiance and supremacy, and made and subscribed the declaration; and also took and subscribed the oaths of abjuration.”

Soon after their Royal Highnesses the Duke and Duchess of Cumberland went to France, and resided there for some time.

An entire change of administration took place in December: Mr. Pitt was declared first lord of the treasury and chancellor of the exchequer; the Marquis of Caermarthen, and Mr. Thomas Townshend, created Lord Sydney, were nominated secretaries of state; Lord Thurlow was reinstated as lord chancellor; Earl Gower as president of the council; the Duke of Rutland was constituted lord privy seal; Lord Howe placed at the head of the Admiralty, and the Duke of Richmond of the Ordnance. On account of this change the King acquired great popularity, and the loyalty of his subjects was increased.

The establishment which was now made for his Royal Highness the Prince of Wales, was similar

to what his Majesty enjoyed when he bore the same title.

The celebration of her Majesty's birth-day in 1784 was the least splendid, and exhibited the least festivity of any since her arrival in this kingdom. His Majesty appeared in a suit of marone velvet, embroidered with gold. The Queen was dressed in green satin, trimmed all over with an inestimable rich sable and point lace: this sable was a present to her Majesty from the empress of Russia, and was thought to be the finest ever brought to England.

The Prince of Wales wore an air balloon satin, embroidered down the seams with silver. His Royal Highness went to St. James's in a new carriage of great beauty. The outside was a very high gold colour, with festoons in party coloured gold, each corner forming a fluted pillar. The roof was ornamented with a very beautiful crown and eight plumes, in curious carved work. His liveries were splendid in the extreme.

The Princess Royal's train was a white satin, figured with blue and gold. The petticoat was entirely covered with a rich embroidered crape, and the ornaments, which were chiefly of gold and foil, were adjusted with uncommon taste into wreaths, festoons, &c. Her Highness's bouquet of natural flowers completed an artless model of perfection: it was a present from the Princess Elizabeth, which her Royal Highness gave in emulation of her sister the Princess Royal, who had the same

morning paid a similar compliment of attention to her Majesty.

The Princess Augusta, from an unfavourable indisposition, was not present on this occasion, and her Highness's absence was much lamented, particularly by the Princess Royal, who had no one near her to whom she could communicate her observations.

The ball-room was uncommonly crowded: soon after their Majesties, the Prince of Wales and Princess Royal entered the room, and were seated, the ball was opened by the Prince of Wales and Princess Royal; his Royal Highness also danced a minuet with the Duchess of Rutland (then the beauty of the day), and afterwards minuets were continued by Lord Graham with Lady Augusta Campbell and Lady Charlotte Bertie; by Lord Rochford with Lady Salisbury and Lady Delaware; Lord Delaware with Lady Georgiana Bulkeley, &c. &c. The gentlemen who danced minuets (the Prince of Wales excepted) walked four with each lady. After these the country-dances commenced, and six couple only stood up. The ball finished about twelve, after which their Majesties retired, and the company began immediately to depart.

Though Messrs. Rundell and Bridge were at this time jewellers to their Majesties, the royal family chiefly dealt with Mr. Gray, of Sackville-street (then Gray and Constable), this being at the west end of the town, and more convenient; his

Royal Highness the Prince of Wales was a constant visitor to Mr. Gray. The Queen at this time did not expend any sums of consequence in jewellery, as her Majesty had, as previously observed, a considerable stock: she was also very careful that the Princesses should not be extravagant in this respect. Mr. Gray having showed her Majesty a pair of diamond ear-rings, manufactured by the late Mr. Richard Forster, of Richmond-buildings, Dean-street, Soho, the Queen admired them for a long time, and enquired the price; but notwithstanding the long credit which was at this period allowed to the royal family, her Majesty laid them down with the following observation—"Very handsome indeed, but—*very dear!*"

On St. David's day this year, as his Royal Highness the Prince of Wales, through indisposition, could not receive the gentlemen, president, &c. of the Welch charity school at Carlton House, the annual donation of 100 guineas was sent.

Great alterations having been made at Carlton House, his Royal Highness gave a grand ball on the 10th, to all the principal nobility and gentry. The apartment where the Prince usually dined was lighted up by three gilt chandeliers, and a number of elegant girandoles. The state-room contains the state chair, which is of a gold frame, covered with crimson damask, and placed beneath a canopy of richly ornamented crimson velvet. In this apartment are the pictures of the King and Queen. Two chambers intervene between the dining

and state room, with the pannels and doors so contrived, that, when closed, they have not the appearance of apertures. In the ball-room, another elegant apartment, is an orchestra, elevated about eleven feet from the ground. The saloon was at this time highly admired for the taste and elegance of its workmanship, and the range of apartments from the saloon to the ball-room formed a grand spectacle.

On the 18th of April his Royal Highness gave a public breakfast at Carlton House : about 600 of the most distinguished persons in the kingdom assembled in his beautiful gardens about two o'clock. The preparations on the occasion were full of magnificence. Covers were laid under nine extensive marquees for 250 persons, and the entertainment consisted of the finest fruits of the season, confectionaries, ices, creams, and emblematical designs. Four bands of instruments were placed at different parts of the garden, and the company were entertained with various novelties of a comic kind, some of the performers at the theatres having attended for that purpose. After they had taken refreshments, they rose to dance. A beautiful level, in the umbrage of a group of trees, was the spot which his Royal Highness selected for their ball, and he led down the country-dances, first with the Duchess of Devonshire, and afterwards with one of the Lady Waldegraves, The company frequently changed their partners. and at times grouped off into cotillions. Among

the ladies who danced was Mrs. Sheridan. The *breakfast* concluded about *six in the evening*, when the company retired to dress.

On the 26th, a grand musical entertainment, in commemoration of Handel, began in Westminster Abbey. The plan having been devised by several admirers of Handel, and countenanced by the directors of the Musical Fund, was immediately patronized by his Majesty; and Westminster Abbey was fixed upon as the properest place for the performance, Handel being buried there. Application was made to the Bishop of Rochester for the use of it, who readily consented, as the scheme was honoured with the King's patronage, but requested, as the performance would interfere with the annual day of the Westminster Infirmary, that the profits of the first day's performance should be equally divided between that Infirmary and the Musical Fund. This proposition was acceded to, it being agreed that the profits of the other days should be applied solely to the Musical Fund. The directors of the concert of Antient Music undertook the management and direction of the business. Mr. Wyatt was employed to plan and oversee the execution of the building in the Abbey. The choral band was put under the direction of Dr. Arnold and Mr. Dupuis; the instrumental under Messrs. Simpson and Ashley.

The west door was attended by Sir Watkin Williams Wynne, Bart. assisted by Dr Arnold, Mr Simpson, and Mr. Ayrton.

The north gallery by Lord Sandwich, assisted by Dr. Cooke and Mr. Aylward.

The south gallery by Lord Exeter, assisted by Mr. Dupuis and Mr. Parsons.

The bishops' gallery by Mr. Jones.

Their Majesties were received at the door of the Poets' Corner by the noble directors, who were distinguished by white wands, tipped with gold, and gold medals, appending from white ribbands. The assistant directors, whose business was to arrange and seat the company, had white wands, tipped with silver, and silver medals.

The Prince of Wales was present, without any marks of distinction, as it was his Royal Highness's wish to be incog.

The Princess Royal sat on the King's right hand.

Four hundred of the foot guards did duty at the avenues of the Abbey, and forty yeomen attended the King and Queen.

There were three performances; the first two consisted of pieces of sacred music, &c. selected from the works of Mr. Handel, and the third of the "Messiah," in allusion to the Resurrection.

On the 27th the second performance took place at the Pantheon, which had been also fitted up in an elegant style by Mr. Wyatt. The east and west galleries, and the passages behind the Ionic colonnade, were supplied with benches, and also the gallery over the orchestra, which had also a new organ case, decorated with a transparent portrait

of Handel, by Smirke. The orchestra was considerably enlarged. Over the entrance, and directly opposite the orchestra, a gallery was erected, supported by six new Ionic columns. In the centre-gallery was placed their Majesties' box, lined with crimson satin, and looking glass, and hung with curtains of crimson damask, fringed with gold. A dome covered this box, on each side of which were placed the royal supporters in gold. Behind their Majesties' box were seats for their attendants. The front of the box was decorated with crimson satin curtains and valances, fringed and laced with gold.

The third performance took place at Westminster Abbey on the 29th. The number of voices and instruments which united in the oratorio produced an effect which cannot be described. Upwards of 4500 tickets had been disposed of.

On the 3d of June these performances were resumed, and select pieces again performed. On the 5th, the "Messiah," by order of the Queen, was repeated. There was a change in the manner of executing the music to "Lift up your heads, O ye gates;" on the former occasion the alternate semi-chorusses were performed by all the voices belonging to each part; but on this day, in order to heighten the contrast, by only three of the principal singers, till about the 33d bar, when the whole chorus from each side of the orchestra, joined by all the instruments, burst out, "He is the King of Glory" which had an admirable effect. His

Majesty made a signal for the repetition of this and the final chorus in the last part.

These performances in commemoration of Handel produced this year,

1st day, Westminster Abbey,	<i>l.</i>	<i>s.</i>	<i>d.</i>
May 26 - - - -	2,966	5	0
2d day, Pantheon, May 27 -	1,690	10	0
3d day, Abbey, May 29 -	2,626	1	0
4th day, June 3 - - -	1,603	7	0
5th day, June 5 - - -	2,117	17	0
At three rehearsals in the Abbey			
and Pantheon - - -	944	17	10
Their Majesties' donation -	525	0	0
By sale of books - - -	262	15	0
Total - - -	12,736	12	10

As a proof of the Queen's strong attachment to music, it should be observed that she was the patroness of the Royal Society for the support of decayed musicians and their families, in Lisle-street, Leicester-square.

There was a grand court and drawing-room this year on his Majesty's birth-day, at which a great number of the nobility attended. At noon the poet laureat's ode was performed. At night the ball was numerous and brilliant; the three eldest Princesses, the Prince of Wales, and Prince Edward being present.

The Queen was exceedingly splendid, and appeared in great spirits; her Majesty's dress was a green and white silver silk, richly trimmed in em-

broidered crape and silver, and ornamented with a profusion of jewels in various devices, knots, sparkles, &c.

The Prince of Wales was dressed in a pearl-coloured silk, embroidered with silver, pearl, and foil.

The Princess Royal was in a silver silk, green and white, ornamented with great taste. The petticoat was covered with a most exquisite embroidered crape, in silver and green foil, variously dispersed with beautiful bouquets of roses, jessamine, myrtles, &c.

The Princess Augusta's train was blue and silver, the same pattern as that of the Princess Royal, and trimmed in a peculiar style of neatness and delicacy. The wreaths of white roses, the rows of silver and blue foil, the fringes, silver bullion, &c. were new of the kind, and perfectly beautiful.

Their Majesties entered the ball-room about half-past nine, and having paid their compliments to the circle, his Royal Highness the Prince of Wales opened the ball.

On the 22d of September a state bed of rich and very curious workmanship was carried to the Queen's Palace as a present from Lady Hastings, brought from India, and which far exceeded any thing of the kind for grandeur ever seen in this kingdom.

The Queen's favourite colour for undress was

purple, and her Majesty frequently wore Irish poplins. Earl Nugent, who about this time retired from public life, had presented a poplin to her Majesty in 1775, as we find among his lordship's poetical works, "Verses addressed to the Queen, with a New Year's Gift of Irish manufacture," 4to. This nobleman was the last surviving friend of Mr. Pope, and was celebrated both as a politician and a poet. He was descended from the Nugents, Earls of Westmeath, in the kingdom of Ireland, and had married the Lady Emilia Plunket, second daughter to Peter, the fourth earl of Fingal: he, secondly, married the daughter of James Craggs, Esq. and widow of Robert Knight, Esq. and having lost his second wife, he married the Countess Dowager of Berkeley. Soon after he had been created an Earl, his daughter was married to Earl Temple, then one of the most opulent and respectable noblemen in the kingdom. Though bred a Roman catholic, Earl Nugent had long renounced that persuasion and became a staunch Protestant and whig. He sat in several Parliaments, and was author of some political pieces. His "Verses to the Queen" occasioned at this time the following

SONNET.

" By summer gales and summer prospects won,
The lark, long silent, shakes his idle wing ;
Compell'd by genial warmth to face the sun,
And hail the ray that rouses him to sing ;

So let each lordly bard, with silver pen,
 Praise, while he feels, the smiles of King or Queen,
 I, of the choral train a wintry wren,
 Too true for flattery and for praise too mean,
 Would strive by constant twitterings to make known,
 In every hut to every swain and maid,
 The best of husbands that e'er graced a throne,
 The best of wives that e'er a sceptre sway'd,
 And from the great example bid them bless
 Virtue's reward—domestic happiness."

OCTOBER, 1784.

Though Earl Nugent's poetry had attained some celebrity, and was indeed superior to the generality of verses published by *titled* bards, he did not escape the shafts of criticism: soon after his lordship's gift to the Queen, the following epigram appeared in some of the journals of the day:

"A piece of fine poplin Earl NUGENT presented,
 With lines to the QUEEN which his muse had invented;
 The gift being double, without any puff,
 The QUEEN gave her thanks for *both pieces of stuff*."

On the 20th of November their Majesties' second son, Prince Frederick, was created Duke of York and Albany.

It has been already intimated that the King and Queen used occasionally to have their private rides or walks together. In one of these unostentatious excursions their Majesties were suddenly overtaken by a violent storm; the rain descended in torrents, and the thunder awfully roared. The Queen was so much alarmed, that she ran towards a small

hovel, which she perceived at some distance, followed by the King. Her Majesty entered previous to her royal consort's arrival, and having merely requested shelter from the storm, the cottager had not the least conception of the illustrious personages to whom she had the honour of affording a temporary asylum. Being however naturally kind and courteous, she placed chairs for her royal guests, and while preparing her children's supper, lamented that she could offer no other refreshment than brown bread, "Alas!" she cried with a heavy sigh, "had your *honours* been here a few years back, I could have given you, though I say it that should not say it, some of the finest bacon in all England; aye, bacon fit for their Majesties."

During this speech the King's eyes had been fixed upon a bacon-rack, of which his Majesty did not know the use; and having enquired, the poor woman exclaimed, "Ah, Sir, that is a piece of useless lumber now, though time was when it had been laden with three or four fitches of bacon." This observation naturally led to an enquiry into the causes which had produced the privation of domestic comforts, and their Majesties were soon made acquainted, in a simple but undissembled manner, with a train of calamities which excited the warmest sympathy in their susceptible hearts.

"Well, my good woman," exclaimed the Queen, "I do not despair of seeing your bacon-rack again well stored, and when it is, remember I bespeak a





H. Carbutt del.

J. C. Chapman sculp.

OULTON'S MEMOIRS OF QUEEN CHARLOTTE

HER MAJESTY RELIEVING THE POOR COTTAGER.

Pub.^d February 20th 1819, by T. Kennerley, Kingsland Road.

spare-rib of you, as I am remarkably fond of pork." This was said with such apparent good-nature, that the poor woman immediately rejoined, "God bless your feeling heart! Oh dear! if ever it should be my lot to fatten another pig, the best joint shall be yours: but the Lord knows when that will be, my good *lady*, for poverty is not the greatest of my troubles: we have a poor sick child, who has cost us a mort of money, I may say, almost ever since she was born, and for the last twelve months we have not been able to buy any doctor's stuff at all."

Their Majesties now eagerly enquired the sufferer's complaint, and the poor woman, to satisfy the curiosity of her sympathetic guests, immediately opened the door of an inner apartment, and displayed her afflicted child on a tressel bed, with merely a few rags to cover her, and apparently in the last stage of a decline. Their Majesties were exceedingly affected, and after a few consolatory words to the afflicted parent, the Queen presented her with some money, and promised that she should hear from her in a short time.

As soon as their Majesties had reached Windsor, the house-apothecary (Mr. Dundas) was summoned into the royal presence, and received orders to pay every possible attention to the invalid; but first of all to inquire whether the inhabitants of the lowly dwelling were real objects of charity, and had not incurred the misfortunes under which they laboured through idleness or depravity.

. The result of these enquiries being perfectly satisfactory, her Majesty dispatched Mr. Dundas to the inhabitants of the humble cottage at an early hour on the following day. Upon opening the door, the gentleman made known the purpose of his visit, informing the poor woman that he attended her child by order of the Queen. "The Queen, Sir!" she exclaimed, "God Almighty bless her Majesty! I cannot conceive how she knew I had a sick child."

"Your memory must be very short, my good woman," replied Mr. Dundas. "Did not the King and Queen take shelter from a thunder storm in this cottage last night?"

"The King and Queen!" she echoed with a look of astonishment, blended with apprehension—"Lack-a-dazy! then I must be ruined outright, for I never so much as knelt down to them. Oh, Sir, sure that good lady and gentleman can never be the King and Queen."

Though the gentleman had not much difficulty in convincing the woman of the truth of his assertions, yet he had no small trouble in tranquillizing the apprehensions of her mind, when she thought of the familiar manner in which she presumed to converse with Majesty. Soon however the appearance of one of the Queen's attendants, with suitable apparel for the children, and an ample supply of provisions, particularly proper nutriment for the poor invalid, dissipated all apprehensions, and the woman's fears were superseded by sensations

of gratitude and delight. On the following day a sow ready to farrow was conducted to the premises, together with a sum of money sufficient to extricate the husband from those difficulties the poor woman had so feelingly described; and by the aid of which these truly grateful people were enabled to resume the comforts they had formerly enjoyed.

Through the skill and attention of Mr. Dundas, the invalid gradually recovered; hence we may be convinced that many a valuable life is sacrificed through the want of the care and attention of a **GOOD SAMARITAN**. Content now filled the breast of each inhabitant of this humble retreat, and gratitude was so strongly impressed upon the heart of this poor woman, that she could not forget the order she had received from the Queen.

The sow did not only produce a healthful but an abundant progeny, part of which were destined to fill the rack which had been so long empty; whilst the spare-rib of the first that was slaughtered the poor woman resolved to present personally to her Majesty. For this purpose she dressed herself in her best apparel, and a new long red cloak, which nearly reached to her feet, was sported for the first time on this occasion. The spare-rib was carefully wrapped up in a clean napkin, and put into a basket, and with this offering of a grateful heart she made the best of her way to the palace. On her arrival at Windsor, she was informed that their Majesties were in London: this information

occasioned considerable mortification and disappointment; while some of the inferior servants, who were ridiculing her country appearance, told her she had better proceed to Buckingham House, where she would be certain of seeing the Queen.

The woman, not having the least conception of the distance between Buckingham House and Windsor, and through her simplicity taking it for granted that the advice was given out of pure good nature, and not for the sake of a joke, dropped a low courtesy to her informer, returned many thanks, and directing her steps towards London, inquired her way to Buckingham Gate. Completely exhausted by fatigue and exertion, the poor woman at length arrived at the long-wished for place, and it having been a public day, by some accident she entered the iron gates. A colonel who happened to be officially employed in the palace that day (whose name was Wortham) seeing a person of her extraordinary appearance endeavouring to enter one of the state-apartments, demanded her motive and business. The poor creature immediately related her simple narrative, though not without feelings of alarm, somewhat like those she had experienced when informed that her august visitors were the King and Queen: at the same time she complained of extreme exhaustion and fatigue, but declared she would a second time cheerfully go through all if she might but have the honour of presenting her spare-rib to the Queen.

Though the colonel could scarcely refrain from smiling at the woman's simplicity, yet he was charmed with her gratitude and respect for the Queen. He pointed out the impossibility of her seeing any of the royal family upon a court-day, but promised to inform her Majesty she had been, "Ah, Sir," she replied in a tone of sorrow, "the pork will not be half so good to-morrow as it is to-day, for pigs and pigeons, your honour, ought, as a body may say, almost to be eaten alive; and surely her Majesty should have the best of what comes out of my humble dwelling, seeing as how she has been the making both of me and mine."

In order to satisfy the poor woman that her Majesty should partake of the humble offering in its most perfect state, the colonel desired her to be shown into one of the inferior apartments, and sending for the clerk of the kitchen at the same time, requested that the pork might appear on the table that very day, and that her Majesty should have the full history of it. With this promise the woman was completely satisfied, and having taken some refreshment, the colonel sent his own servant with her to the Windsor stage.

When the Queen was informed of this adventure, her Majesty expressed much displeasure towards the person who had occasioned the poor woman's unnecessary journey; and though she smiled at her simplicity, yet she was so delighted with this act of gratitude, that the Queen absolutely dined that day upon the spare-rib of pork.

This family was afterwards added to the list of her Majesty's pensioners, for she was very attentive to all individuals who were known to be in situations of pecuniary distress and difficulty, and it must be acknowledged that her Majesty's donations were always private and unostentatious. Every quarter, on receiving the payment of her income from the Treasury, the Queen commissioned four pages (who were bound to secrecy) to take a separate division of the town for the purpose of settling with those pensioners, who consisted of decayed families, widows, and orphans. It must also be observed, that if one of those pages was ever known to betray any one of his royal mistress's secrets, he was immediately dismissed.

Mr. Gray, of Sackville-street, in consequence of the dissolution of his partnership with Mr. Constable, who opened a similar concern in the same place, was obliged for the recovery of his debts to institute legal proceedings against several illustrious characters; particularly his Royal Highness the Prince of Wales. By these means Mr. Gray received several considerable sums, though he was mortified by the temporary desertion of some of his most distinguished customers. The Prince of Wales transferred his favours to Mr. Jefferys, jeweller, Pall-mall, who was afterwards member of Parliament for the city of Coventry.

The 1st of January, 1785, was, according to custom, observed at St. James's as a high festival. Their Majesties, the Prince of Wales, the Princess

Royal, and others of the royal family, received the compliments of the nobility and gentry; and the ode written and set to music for the occasion was performed by the gentlemen of his Majesty's chapel, and the choirs of Westminster Abbey and St. Paul's Cathedral.

The 18th being observed as her Majesty's birthday, between eleven and twelve o'clock the King and Queen, the Princess Royal, Princess Elizabeth, and Princess Augusta, with Prince Edward, and several others of the royal children, went to St. James's. About half after one o'clock they entered the drawing-room to receive the compliments of the nobility.

The King appeared in a suit of scarlet, embroidered with gold. The Queen wore a plain coquelicot satin, trimmed with a rich point lace. The Prince of Wales was in a purple velvet, richly embroidered down the seams. The Princess Royal's train was a small pattern in gold tissue, with poppy colour: the decorations of the petticoat were finely conceived in wreaths of foil and gold, with beautiful embroidered crape, brilliants, gold tassels, &c. Her Majesty was attended by Lady Egremont, as lady of the bed-chamber, and the Princess Royal by Lady Elizabeth Waldegrave. About nine their Majesties and the Royal Family entered the ball-room; and the minuets were commenced by the Prince of Wales with the Princess Royal and Princess Augusta: Prince Edward with the Duchess of Rutland and the Countess of Salisbury. The other dancers consisted of the

Duchess of Rutland, Countess of Salisbury, Lady Parker, Honourable Misses Townshend, Thynne, Murray, &c. Lords Stopford, Strathaven, St. Asaph, Earl of Morton, Earl of Rochford, Hon. G. Hanger, &c.

In the evening of February the 7th, Lord Berwick's house in Portman-square was thrown open for the reception of masks. The company were selected by tickets limited to the number of 500, and about eleven o'clock the rooms were completely filled with the fashionable world in a great variety of excellent masquerade figures; the dominos (contrary to the generality of masquerades) not being very prevalent. About half past eleven his Royal Highness the Prince of Wales's party arrived from Carlton House, and consisted of a convent of grey friars, under the direction of a superior: they were thirteen in number, and most completely clad. The superior of these friars sung an extremely witty new character song, with a chorus by the whole fraternity in a circle; which, at the request of the company, was sung a second time in the same manner. About one o'clock, the whole body of monks unmasked, and were discovered to consist of the following group:

Superior of the Convent, Captain Morris,
by whom the Song was written.

Monks.

His Royal Highness the	Hon. — St. John.
Prince of Wales.	J. Payne, Esq.
Hon. H. Conway.	P. O'Byrne, Esq.
Hon. G. Conway.	M. Braddyll, Esq.
Hon. C. Dillon.	Col. Gardener.
Hon. S. Finch.	Capt. Boyle.
Lord Strathaven.	

The poet laureat, William Whitehead, Esq. died on the 14th of April, at his apartments in Charles-street, Grosvenor-square. On the 20th his remains were interred in South Audley Chapel.

Among the *jeux d'esprits* of this day were "Probationary Odes," supposed to have been sent to the Lord Chamberlain's office, for the vacant poet laureatship, by several candidates, consisting of the then most popular living characters. We give the following short extracts from these burlesque odes as the most applicable to the present work; though by no means the best specimens of their humour:

"Farewell awhile ye summer breezes!

What is the life of Man?

A span!

Sometimes it thaws, sometimes it freezes,

Just as it pleases!

If heaven decrees, fierce whirlwinds rend the air,

And then, again, Behold! 'tis fair!

Thus Peace and War on earth alternate reign.

Auspicious George, thy powerful word

Gives Peace to France and Spain,

And sheathes the martial sword!"

—
"Fall to,

Ye royal crew,

Eat! eat! your bellies full—pray do—

At treats I never wince;

The Q—— shall say,

Once in a way,

Her maids have been well cramm'd—her young ones
dined like Princes.

For this big morn,
Great George was born,
The tidings all the Poles shall sing ;
Let all due homage pay,
On this his native day,
George, by the grace of God, our rightful King."

Thomas Warton, fellow of Trinity College, and professor of poetry in Oxford, was now appointed poet laureat.

His Royal Highness the Prince of Wales was admitted a member of the beef-steak club on the 14th of May. The club was at this time of fifty years standing, and consisted of the most classical and ingenious wits in the kingdom. As his Royal Highness had signified a wish of belonging to the society, and as there was no vacancy, it was proposed to make him an honorary member, but that being declined, it was agreed to increase the number from twenty-five, and his Royal Highness in consequence was unanimously elected.

On the 2d of June the grand musical concert from Handel's works was performed at Westminster Abbey to a most brilliant audience, consisting of upwards of 2000 persons of the highest rank. Their Majesties (under whose patronage this annual commemoration of Handel was undertaken) were present, accompanied by the Princess Royal, Princess Augusta, and some of the younger branches of the royal family. The concert was composed of miscellaneous pieces, of which the "Dettingen Te Deum," and the "Dead March

in Saul," were most distinguished. In the former, the solo part, which was sung the preceding year by Champnes, was this year sung by Tasca, in a far superior style, and with a greater effect. In the march, the drums which Mr. Aldridge beat, were so much improved, that they had a most admirable effect. The receipts of this musical festival, including their Majesties' donation of four hundred guineas, amounted to 11,648*l.* 13*s.*

	<i>l.</i>	<i>s.</i>	<i>d.</i>
Expenses - - - -	4,888	15	0
To the Royal Society of Musicians - - - -	3,000	0	0
To St. George's Hospital - -	1,800	0	0
Westminster Hospital - -	1,800	0	0
Remaining - - - -	159	18	0
	<hr/> 11,648 18 0 <hr/>		

His Majesty's birth-day this year was distinguished by the splendid appearance of the drawing-room. The King was in a plain suit, of a milk chocolate colour. The Queen was superbly dressed in blue and silver; the petticoat was entirely covered with a rich silver embroidered crape; her jewels were disposed with uncommon taste, and raised to such advantage on a black ground in stripes, as made a most brilliant appearance. The Prince of Wales was in a royal purple velvet, richly embroidered with silver. The Princess Royal's dress was lilac, embellished with silver embroidered crape, of superior work, representing various de-

vices, in wreaths, knots, and flower baskets, interspersed with a variety of small bouquets of natural flowers. Princess Augusta was in a pea-green and silver tissue, the same pattern as her sister's, but ornamented with different colours. Her Highness wore a beautiful bouquet in her bosom. The Princess Elizabeth's dress was the very counterpart of the Princess Royal's; the bouquets with which it was ornamented were chiefly of jonquils and myrtles. Her Highness differed from her sisters by wearing no bouquet in her bosom.

The ball-room displayed a brilliant company. Lord Salisbury bore the rod of office, but being absent through indisposition, it descended to a deputy. The Prince of Wales opened the ball with the Princess Royal, and afterwards danced with the Princess Augusta. The Princess Elizabeth, who visited the ball-room for the first time, walked the next minuet; Lord Rochford was honoured with her Highness's hand upon this occasion. The minuets ended about half-past ten, when the country-dances commenced. Eight couple stood up, but the space was too confined to admit of their dancing in the best order. The ball ended a few minutes before twelve, in consequence of its being Saturday night.

The Prince of Wales gave a grand fete at Carlton House on the 10th of June. The ball-room was fitted up in a light and pleasing style. Twelve superb lustres were suspended from the ceiling, and the same number of girandoles on

brackets, placed round the room. Two orchestras were constructed, hung with crimson silk. Upwards of two hundred ladies were present, some of whom were of the first accomplishments and fashion. The ball was suspended at half-past one, and the company repaired to supper. Five rooms were laid out for the purpose. The Prince and a party, consisting of one hundred ladies and gentlemen, supped in the grand escaglio saloon. The Duchess of Devonshire was seated on the right hand of his Royal Highness, and Lady Beauchamp on the left. All the first families in the kingdom supped in this apartment. The company amounted together to four hundred and fifty. The supper consisted of eight removes, of the most choice dishes, and a grand display of confectionary, with the most curious fruits.

After supper the dances were resumed with great hilarity. The Prince danced with the Duchess of Gordon, Lady Duncannon, and several other ladies.

Balloons were all the rage at this time, but the royal family, particularly the Queen, did not seem much interested in those aerial voyages. Their Majesties, the Princess Royal, Princess Elizabeth, and three of the younger children, visited Egham races. At half-past twelve o'clock on the 29th of August they came upon the course, and the Duke of Queensberry gave their Majesties some account of the horses that were to run. The Lord Mayor and Lady Mayoress had some conversation with

the King and Queen. His Majesty appeared on the ground on horseback, and conversed with the clerk of the course at different times. The Queen, Princess Royal, and Princess Elizabeth, were in an open landau. The three royal children were in a coach. Their Majesties while in the field regaled themselves with cold beef, ham, and veal, and seemed to enjoy their plain repast: they expressed themselves much pleased with the day's sport.

At this time Prince William Henry arrived at Falmouth in the Hebe frigate, commanded by Commodore Gower, and was very pleasantly entertained at Lord Falmouth's, at Tregothnan. His Royal Highness rode in the morning to Truro, paid a visit to the corporation, and was accompanied by Mr. Daniels, the proprietor of the smelting-house, to see the different operations of melting the tin. The Prince ate a luncheon of beef-steaks, broiled in one of the hot tins, which is said to be the only way of eating a rump-steak in perfection. After which his Royal Highness returned with Lord Falmouth and the Commodore, all on horseback, to Tregothnan, and in the evening visited the theatre at Truro.

His Royal Highness also went to see the mines, which produce both copper and tin: he asked several pertinent questions, and on his being informed that a considerable revenue was paid to his brother, the Prince of Wales, as Duke of Cornwall, from the tin mines, each block paying him

about twelve shillings, he said he was very happy to hear it, for in all probability the tin-cash would be very acceptable to his brother George.

On the 12th of September the King and Queen, with the Princes Ernest, Augustus, and Adolphus, their Majesties' fifth, sixth, and seventh sons; the Princess Royal, the Princess Augusta, and Princess Elizabeth, attended by the Right Hon. Lady Elizabeth Waldegrave, lady of the bed-chamber to the Princess Royal, General Harcourt and Colonel Manners, aides-de-camp to his Majesty, and Mr. Hayes, governor to the young Princes, paid a visit to Lord and Lady Harcourt at their seat at Nuneham, purposing to return to Windsor the same evening; but the weather being favourable, his Majesty and Royal Consort resolved to take this opportunity of privately visiting Oxford, and therefore slept that night at Nuneham.

The next morning, about a quarter past ten o'clock, their Majesties and the royal offspring, with the Earl and Countess of Harcourt added to their suite, arrived at Oxford in five carriages, and passing through the fields behind Merton College, arrived at Christ Church, and entering the Cathedral at prayer time, took their seats during divine service. After which, having viewed the windows, &c. they were conducted to the hall, the dean's apartment, and the library, and from thence to Corpus Christi College. Here the Rev. Dr. Dennis, president of St. John's College, as vice-chancellor, preceded by the beadles with their

staves inverted, did himself the honour of paying his respects to their Majesties, and attended them from thence to Merton College, and to the Radclivian library.

Their Majesties from hence entered the public schools at the eastern gate, and passing through the divinity school, were ushered into the theatre, where the heads of houses, doctors in the different faculties, &c. were assembled. In the area of this magnificent room, chairs being placed for that purpose, their Majesties and the Royal Family were seated for some time, and the Vice-Chancellor, with the heads of houses, the Hon. Mr. Matthew, of Corpus Christi, and the Proctors, had the honour of kissing their Majesties' hands.

The Bodleian library was next visited, where the librarian had the honour of kissing their Majesties' hands. From thence the King, Queen, and Royal Family were conducted to the Picture Gallery, and afterwards saw the Pomfret and Arundelian marbles; and in the Music School the professor had likewise the honour of kissing hands.

Leaving the public edifices, their Majesties visited the chapel and library at New College; and from thence passed through the gardens of St. John's, where having seen the library, chapel, and hall, they were conducted to the observatory. From this place his Majesty and the Royal Family proceeded to the council-chamber, where John Treacher, Esq. the then mayor, with the alder-

men, assistants, &c. attended in their formalities to receive the Royal Visitors. The King was pleased to confer the honour of knighthood on the mayor, who with the aldermen, &c. had also the honour of kissing hands.

Their Majesties from hence visited All Souls and Magdalen Colleges, where having seen the chapels, libraries, &c. they quitted Oxford on their return to Lord Harcourt's, a little past five o'clock, where an elegant cold collation waited their arrival, and they set out for Windsor about seven the same evening.

On their Majesties returning from London to Windsor in their post-chaise, early in October, at their being set down, a number of children surrounded the carriage to see the King and Queen; and amongst them was a very fine boy, that morning put in breeches for the first time. His Majesty instantly fixed his eye on the cheerful countenance of the child, and asked him whose boy he was. The lad replied, "My father is the King's beef-eater." "Then," said the King, "down on your knees, and you shall have the honour to kiss the Queen's hand:" to which the boy replied, "No, I won't kneel down, because I shall dirt my new breeches." This extempore repartee had such a pleasing effect on their Majesties, that they made the boy a present of five guineas.

On the 8th the King was thrown from his horse in Windsor Park, but sustained no injury.

On the 15th the Duke and Duchess of Cumberland unexpectedly arrived from the continent. They soon afterwards set out from London to Avignon, and on the 15th of November a courier arrived at Carlton House with accounts of their having safely landed at Boulogne.

In consequence of General Eliott's gallant defence of Gibraltar, the King, Queen, and Royal Family condescended to accept a golden medal each in commemoration of the glorious event. These medals were delivered to their Majesties and the Royal Family, by order of General Eliott, about the middle of November. The face of the medal represented a rock. Motto on the legend: *Per tot discrimina rerum*; exergue XIII Sept. MDCCCLXXXII. On the reverse, a crown of laurel, with a German motto, *Bruderschaft*, signifying brotherhood. Within the wreath, the names of the four principal officers, *Rehden, Lamotte, Sydon, Eliott*. The dies were executed by Mr. Pingo, and upwards of twelve hundred struck off in gold and silver.

Early in November, his Serene Highness Prince George of Mecklenburg Strelitz, youngest brother to her Majesty, died at Tyrnau, in Hungary. In a few days after died her Serene Highness Princess Charlotte Wilhelmina of Hesse Darmstadt, consort to his Serene Highness Prince Charles of Mecklenburg Strelitz, brother to her Majesty. Her Serene Highness had been previously delivered of a Prince.

The 5th of January, 1786, being the day appointed for the celebration of the new year, the usual ceremonies were observed at St. James's.

Her Majesty's birth-day was not kept this year till the 9th of February, on account of the mourning. An elegant court assembled at an early hour. The King, who appeared remarkably cheerful, was dressed in brown velvet, richly embroidered with gold and silver. The Queen was in a beautiful laurel-green satin, trimmed with a rich embroidered crape, in coloured foils, &c. Her Majesty appeared in very good spirits, both at the drawing-room and in the evening. The Prince of Wales was in a rich dress of silver, on a garter-blue ground. The Princess Royal's dress was a robe of lemon satin, with the body of the same, the petticoat trimmed with gold gauze, placed around in large puffs, with some few flowers; her head ornamented with white feathers and one black, which contained a number of diamonds, elegantly arranged. The Princess Augusta was dressed like her sister, except in the trimming of her petticoat, which was plaited in stripes, and had a beautiful effect.

The ball in the evening was highly splendid, and displayed an assemblage of beauty which no court in the universe ever exhibited. The company were so numerous, that the apartment was crowded before the King and Queen entered, and soon afterwards Lord Aylesford found it necessary to give directions that no more persons should be admitted,

and that the door should be locked. This novel order was obeyed in a most uncourtly manner by some of the yeomen, who pushed the gentlemen back, who had not come at an earlier hour, with great rudeness. The ball terminated between twelve and one, after which their Majesties and the Princesses retired. The Prince of Wales remained some little time in conversation with the ladies, and on his withdrawing, the company began immediately to depart; but it was not till three in the morning that the court was entirely cleared.

The ladies, in general, far outshone the gentlemen in appearance. The most remarkable person at the ball was the ambassador from Tripoli, attended by his page of honour and secretary, all dressed in the habits of their country. They appeared quite delighted with and astonished at the crowd of beauties that surrounded them; nor were they less objects of admiration to the British ladies, who beheld with wonder the venerable beard of this august sage. This ambassador, when he had been presented to his Majesty (Jan. 27) brought over with him as a present to the King, from the Bey his master, a very rich saddle, with stirrups of steel, double girth, the breast-plate of embossed gold, and a bridle of curious workmanship.

Early in March his Royal Highness Prince William Henry was initiated into the ancient and honourable society of Free and Accepted Masons, No. 86, held at the Prince George Inn, Plymouth.

His Royal Highness Prince William accepted

the freedom of Plymouth, which was presented to him at Mr. Winne's, May 23, in a very elegant box, by the four senior aldermen and common council-men. His Royal Highness afterwards sailed in the Pegasus frigate, and the Rose, Captain Harvey, for Guernsey; and from thence for Halifax and Newfoundland.

Mrs. Georgiana Herbert was now appointed one of her Majesty's bed-chamber women, in the place of Mrs. Boughton, deceased, and in consequence of the death of Mrs. Bloodworth, the Hon. Ariana Margaret Egerton was another of her Majesty's bed-chamber women.

The King; Queen, and Princess Royal were sponsors at the christening of the Earl of Salisbury's daughter: his Grace the Archbishop of Canterbury performed the service, at his Lordship's house in Arlington-street, on the 27th of April. The Queen received the child from Lady Essex, and the Archbishop received it from the Queen, who named it Georgina Charlotta Augusta. The present which his Majesty gave on this occasion was a piece of plate of one hundred and twenty ounces weight, which was inscribed with the name of the child, the sponsors, &c. It is worthy of observation, that sixteen years had previously elapsed without a visit of a matrimonial pledge of felicity between the Earl and Countess of Salisbury, and doubtless the birth of this child afforded considerable joy.

The three young Princes, Ernest, Augustus, and Adolphus, attended by Lord Howe and General Fawcett, went to Gravesend, and embarked on board the Augusta yacht for Germany. His Royal Highness Prince Edward was promoted to the rank of colonel in the army, by brevet bearing date May 20.

At the first Musical Festival this year at Westminster Abbey, in commemoration of Handel, May 31, more than 2,600 persons were present, and the choir, including music, consisted of 640 hands. The presence of their Majesties, with the Princess Royal, Princess Elizabeth, two other of the Princesses, and three Princes, accompanied by the Prince of Mecklenburg Strelitz, and a numerous retinue, formed a most splendid appearance.

The second day's performance, Saturday, June the 3d, was better attended, if possible, than the first.

Tuesday, June the 6th, the sacred oratorio of the "Messiah," was performed before a company equally numerous and brilliant with any of the former days. On the 8th of June the music of the second day's performance (the oratorio of "Israel in Egypt,") was repeated by command of his Majesty.

These musical festivals produced this year 12,326*l.* 12*s.*

The Royal Society of Musicians received 3,300*l.*

St. George's and Westminster hospitals 1,300*l*. The band of music were paid 3,200*l*. the builder 1,210*l*. and the rest was expended in printing, &c.

His Majesty's birth-day was celebrated on Monday, the 5th of June, when there was a very numerous and splendid appearance of the nobility, foreign ministers, and persons of distinction at St. James's. The King was dressed in a plain brown, agreeable to his accustomed neatness on this occasion. The Queen was in royal purple, entirely covered with fine Brussels' lace. This was the most costly dress her Majesty ever wore on the occasion: it displayed peculiar neatness and elegance, which was exceedingly heightened by the brilliant effect of her jewels. Among other diamonds her Majesty had a beautiful bouquet of brilliants.

The Prince of Wales was in an elegant suit of an orange colour, embroidered with silver: the star, of the order of St. George, was composed of brilliants with exquisite taste.

The Princess Royal was in a pea-green and silver lutestring, most superbly trimmed. Her Highness's train had a rich border of various colours. The petticoat was covered with an embroidered crape, representing oak branches and fleurettes of the finest workmanship in silver and foil; also pending acorns, so effective as scarcely to be distinguished from nature. An interspersion of white ostrich feathers, and beautiful spangled gauze at bottom, served to relieve, and added

much to the magnificence and lustre of the whole.

Princess Augusta and Princess Elizabeth were in pink and silver, of the same pattern, and decorated with the same taste and fancy as their Royal Sister's.

The ball-room had a brilliant appearance early in the evening. The Prince of Wales entered a little before nine. The King, Queen, and the three elder Princesses soon after appeared; her Majesty was exceedingly courteous and affable. The Prince of Mecklenburg was also present, but did not join in any of the dances. After the country-dances their Majesties gave notice of retiring, and the ball ended.

At this time his Royal Highness the Prince of Wales was very much involved. His Royal Highness had become attached to Mrs. Fitzherbert: this lady, the daughter of Walter Smith, Esq. formerly of Tonge Castle, in Shropshire, was born in October, 1755. She married, first, John Weld, Esq. of Lulworth Castle, Dorsetshire, a widower, and secondly — Fitzherbert, Esq. of Swinerton, in Staffordshire, who fell a sacrifice to the riots in 1780. At this time she appeared in the gay world with remarkable splendour and distinction. Many vague and improbable rumours were circulated, and the lady was now considered as neither a wife nor a widow. Mr. Jefferys, the jeweller, of Pall-mall, was one of his Royal Highness's chief creditors, whose debts were estimated

at 250,000*l.* His Royal Highness's race-horses cost 30,000*l.* a year. When a statement of the debts was laid before his Majesty, a positive refusal of his consent to the discharge of them was the result; nor would he allow any increase of income. His Royal Highness (notwithstanding the aspersions of Mr. Jefferys, whose pamphlet we shall hereafter notice) displayed on the present occasion a noble spirit, for he determined to lay aside his state—retire to a private station—disband his household—suspend the intended improvements of Carlton House—abridge every unnecessary expense, and assign the produce of the sale of his horses and other superfluities, with the consequent savings, to the use of his creditors. From his future income, his Royal Highness resolved to appropriate the sum of 40,000*l.* per annum, to commence from the ensuing quarter, for the benefit of those who had claims upon him, and that four of his Royal Highness's friends should be fixed on for the due appropriation of the money. According to this determination, letters were written to the gentlemen of his household, on the 7th of July, stating that their services would for the present be dispensed with. The four whom his Royal Highness retained, and to whom the management of the funds to be set apart for the payment of the debts was entrusted, were Colonels Hotham, Hulse, Lake, and Henry Lyte, Esq.

On the 21st and 25th, a numerous assemblage of the principal noblemen and turf-gentlemen attend-

ed at the sale of his Royal Highness the Prince of Wales's stud of brood mares and horses in training. It was a remarkably good sale, the horses in general produced very good prices, with only one exception, which was that *Rockingham*, the Prince's favourite horse, got by *Highflyer*, at this time allowed to be the best horse in the world, sold for 800 guineas only. He cost his Royal Highness 2000. He was bought by Mr. Bullock, who afterwards declared, that rather than not have had him, he would have gone to double the price.

Amongst many others the following were purchasers :

Mr. Wyndham bought *Ulysses*, five years old, for 110 guineas.

Mr. Butt bought *Hardwick*, five years old, for 150 guineas.

Mr. Hull bought *Braganza*, three years, with liberty of taking all the engagements at starting, for 170 guineas.

Mr. Beardmore bought *Mufti*, three years, with his engagements, for 23 guineas.

Colonel O'Kelly bought *Charles*, two years, with his engagements, for 120 guineas.

Mr. Hull bought a grey colt, two years, by *Highflyer*, with engagements, for 140 guineas.

Colonel O'Kelly bought *Augusta*, two years old, with engagements, for 280 guineas.

Lord Grosvenor bought *Nelly*, two years old, with ditto, for 270 guineas.

The whole of the horses sold produced 7,586*l.* 5*s.*

It is worthy of observation, that Colonel O'Kelly put *Augusta* in at five, and bought her at 200 guineas.

At this time the Duke of Saxe Gotha, uncle of his Majesty, and brother of the late Princess Dowager of Wales, had been for some days in England; but on account of his advanced age his Grace did not appear publicly at the drawing-rooms, but paid his respects to their Majesties at Kew and Windsor. His Grace also travelled as a private nobleman.

On the 2d of August, as his Majesty was alighting from his carriage, at the garden door, opposite the Duke of Marlborough's wall in St. James's Park, to go to the levee, a woman decently dressed in a black silk cloak, &c. pretendedly offered his Majesty a paper, which appeared folded in the form of a petition. His Majesty stooped to receive it, but the point of a knife appearing at the end of the paper, and a pass being made by the woman at the same instant, towards his belly, between the coat and waistcoat (the knife having just touched the waistcoat) the King drew back and said, "What does the woman mean?" One of the yeomen (Lodge) observing something extraordinary, seized the woman by the arm, and immediately the knife dropped out of her hand. The yeoman, taking up the knife, said, "It is a knife." It seems the weapon was so much worn, and so very thin, that when she thrust it against his Majesty's waistcoat, it bent. The King immediately

said, "I am not hurt; take care of the woman—she is mad—do not hurt her." His Majesty went forward into the palace, and when he had recovered himself from the surprise, seemed greatly affected, and uttered some expressions signifying that he had not deserved this treatment from any of his subjects. His Majesty now examined the paper which he took from the woman, wherein was written, "To the King's most excellent Majesty," (the usual head to petitions) but nothing more.

The woman was immediately taken into custody, and carried to the inner guard chamber. Upon being questioned by several persons how she could make so wicked and daring an attempt, she returned for answer that they had no right to examine her; when she was brought before the proper persons, she would give her reasons.

She was then taken into the Queen's anti-chamber, where she remained till near five o'clock; during which time, though spoken to by many of the nobility, she did not condescend to make any answer, but appeared entirely unmoved by any representations that were made of the atrocity of her crime.

At five o'clock she was taken to the Board of Green Cloth for examination, where there were present the Attorney-General, the Solicitor-General, and Master of the Rolls, who were sent for on the occasion. Mr. Pitt, the Earl of Salisbury, the Marquis of Caermarthen, Lord Sydney, Sir

Francis Drake, Mr. Falkner, and the following magistrates, Sir Robert Taylor, Mr. Bond, Mr. Addington, Mr. Callick, and Mr. Reed, also attended.

The woman said that her name was Margaret Nicholson; that she was the daughter of George Nicholson, of Stockton-upon-Tees, in Durham; that she had a brother who kept a public-house in Milford-lane, and that she came to London at twelve years of age, and had been a house-maid in several families. It appeared that the woman (who was about thirty-six years of age) was insane. Being asked where she lately resided, she answered frantically, "That she had been abroad since all that matter of the crown broke out." Being further questioned "What *matter?*?" she said the crown was hers, and if she had not her rights, England would be deluged in blood for a thousand generations. On being interrogated as to the nature of her right, she refused to give a positive answer, but intimated that those rights were a mystery.

Her lodgings having been searched, three incoherent letters were found about her pretended right to the crown, addressed to Lord Mansfield, Lord Loughborough, and General Bramham. Mr. Fisk, with whom she lodged three years, declared her conduct was sometimes very odd, but he never considered her as an absolute lunatic. Her brother stated that she very seldom called upon him. She was very thoughtful at times, and always reserved,

but exceedingly industrious at her needle. All that were found in her pockets were a silver sixpence and three halfpence.

The insanity of this woman being evident, the idea of a judicial process was abandoned, and she was consigned to an apartment provided for her in Bethlem Hospital.

The moment the Spanish charge des affaires heard of the attempt on the King's life, with great presence of mind he went post to Windsor, and immediately introduced himself to the Queen—not as a man of common sagacity would have done in order to inform her Majesty that the King had received no injury from the knife of the assassin, but solely with an intention to engage her in conversation, and thereby, from pure motives of humanity, to prevent her from hearing any report at all until the King's arrival. In this design he happily succeeded, and then took leave of their Majesties, leaving the King to tell the story himself. The King, when he saw him afterwards, shook him very graciously by the hand, and assured him that he hardly knew a man in the world to whom he was so much obliged.

Congrätulatory addresses were presented to his Majesty from all parts of the kingdom on account of his escape from assassination, and a form of thanksgiving was read in all churches and chapels on Sunday the 20th, both morning and evening. In some of the sermons preached on the occasion, the congregations were informed that had it not

been for the merciful interposition of Providence, they might have experienced all the ills which generally accrue from juvenile indiscretion.

On account of the well-known piety of their Majesties, it may be reasonably concluded that this public thanksgiving was by the King's express order. Every day the Queen made her family read the appointed portions of the sacred Scriptures, and her Majesty also took care that her domestics should be well acquainted with the holy Bible.

On the 12th of August their Majesties, the Princess Royal, Princess Augusta, and Princess Elizabeth, arrived at Nuneham, on a visit to the Earl and Countess of Harcourt. Here their Majesties spent the day, and took a view of the new improvements in the gardens, pleasure-grounds, &c.

On Sunday, the 20th, after attending divine service at Nuneham, and fervently joining in the thanksgiving prayer before-mentioned, the King, Queen, and Princesses, with their attendants, set out for Oxford; and about half-past one o'clock were received at the eastern gate of the schools by the Vice-Chancellor, Duke of Marlborough, Marquis of Blandford, heads of houses, doctors, professors, and other officers of the university in their proper habits, who ushered their Majesties into the Divinity School; from whence in grand procession they entered the theatre, where the King took the chancellor's chair; the Queen and Princesses were seated on his Majesty's left hand. Upon entering the theatre their Majesties were saluted with

a voluntary on the full organ ; and after a short pause, the Vice-Chancellor approached the throne with an address on his Majesty's happy deliverance " from the late alarming and horrid attempt to deprive the kingdoms of that invaluable life, to which we owe the inestimable blessings of protection and security, the genuine effects of a mild and equal government." This address concluded with a compliment to her Majesty.

In answer to the Vice-Chancellor, his Majesty graciously observed ;

" Such dutiful sentiments on my second visit to this seat of learning, accompanied by affectionate congratulations on the protection of divine Providence, manifested by the failure of the attempt on my life, call forth my warmest thanks. I am not less sensible of your expressions towards the Queen.

" The University of Oxford may ever depend on my inclination to encourage every branch of science ; as the more my subjects are enlightened, the more they must be attached to the excellent constitution established in this realm."

From the theatre the Royal Family went to New College, to take a second view of the chapel and the new window painted by Jervais ; from thence to Wadham College and to Trinity, where, after seeing the garden and the chapel, their Majesties were shown into the hall. Here an elegant repast was upon the tables.

From Trinity College their Majesties went to

Lincoln and Brazen Nose, and from thence to the Common Chamber of the city, where his Majesty signified his royal intention of receiving the address from the city ; which being read by the Town Clerk, and delivered by the Worshipful the Mayor, was most graciously received ; after which the Mayor, Aldermen, &c. kissed the King's hand ; and Richard Tawney, Esq. senior Alderman, received the honour of knighthood.

From the Council Chamber their Majesties proceeded to Christ Church, where they took a view of the library and of the collection of pictures presented to the college by the late General Guise, as likewise the cathedral, the chapter-house, and hall. It being now half-past six o'clock, their Majesties, with their attendants, returned to dinner at Nuneham.

On the following morning their Majesties and the three elder Princesses, attended by the Duchess of Ancaster, Lord and Lady Harcourt, and others of their suite, honoured Blenheim with a visit. Seven of the Duke of Marlborough's keepers, in their green uniforms, were stationed on Campsfield to escort their Majesties through Woodstock. They proceeded through the town amidst the joyful acclamations of the inhabitants and a numerous assembly collected from the neighbouring villages.

Their Majesties' entrance into the Park through the Woodstock gate, was announced about eleven o'clock by the firing of cannon from the fort situated on the great lake. The magnificent scene

which now opened at once to their view, did not fail to produce its wonted effect, it being observed that the drivers were instantly commanded to slacken their pace, and proceed slowly to the entrance of the mansion. The Duke and Duchess of Marlborough, with their family, awaited the arrival of the Royal visitors on the hall steps, and conducted them through the great hall, saloon, and suite of rooms on the west side, to a splendid collation prepared for them in the library. From hence they proceeded to view the other apartments, and were pleased to express uncommon satisfaction at the assemblage of elegant magnificence which the rare collection of pictures and choice assortment of furniture every where exhibited. At two o'clock a variety of carriages belonging to the Duke of Marlborough being ready for their accommodation, their Majesties drove round the park, and having surveyed it at the most striking points of view, they alighted near the cascade, where they spent some time in admiring the improvements lately made there, and most graciously joined in the general approbation of the Duke's judicious taste. They returned to the house by the terrace walk, which commands a prospect of the great water. His Grace's observatory, with its ample apparatus, was reserved by the Royal visitors for the last object of their inspection. At six o'clock they took their leave of Blenheim, and returned to Nuneham.

The following copy of verses, composed on the

morning of the Royal visit, was presented to his Majesty at Blenheim :

“ Dread Sovereign, hail ! an humble bard,
His loyal gratulation pays ;
Ah ! how unequal are his lays,
To win a Monarch’s great regard !

“ No CHAUCER now delights those groves,
With Poesy’s enchanting sound ;
Yet still disport the purple loves,
And still the Graces hover round :
Matured by years, improved by taste,
Each lovelier scene is fairer made,
Than when Britannia’s Monarch bless’d,
With daily smiles, this rural shade.

“ Illustrious Sire ! ordain’d to prove
The ardour of a nation’s love ;
By every royal gift endear’d,
By every rank adored, revered ;
By Guardian Angels saved from Fate,
Who mindful of Britannia’s weal,
Thy sacred steps, well pleased, beset
And turn’d aside the frantic steel—
To Woodstock welcome—May the day
With brightest lustre shine,
That gives our eyes the richest feast—
The sight of BRUNSWICK’S line !

“ At Fancy’s call Time’s vista meets my sight,
A splendid group of Kings appear,
Who shed benignant lustra here,
And sought these bowers which ever fresh delight.
AN ALFRED’S sacred name we boast,
Whose valour saved this sea-girt isle ;
Whose genius bade the Muses smile,
And woo’d them to the Northern coast.

To HENRIES, EDWARDS, hallow'd names,
 The muse recurs with reverence due;
 But more a GEORGE'S worth inflames,
 And veils their glories from her view.

Oh blest in all that can adorn,
 The monarch or the man;
 To scatter happiness intent,
 The Public good to scan.

“What raptures must pervade thy breast,
 When Memory aids the Royal thought,
 And shows what former Kings possess'd,
 And what thy greater bounty wrought.

“In public life, in private bliss,
 Unrivalled shines a George's reign;
 And future ages envying this,
 The charming scene shall paint again.
 And may the Bard who tunes the lays
 In distant eras, tell this isle,
 That George's long and happy days,
 Were cheer'd with Charlotte's heavenly smile—
 That riches flowed from commerce spread—
 That Arts were cherish'd by the Throne—
 That Peace and Plenty reared their head,
 And call'd a happy realm their own.”

Prince Charles of Mecklenburg Strelitz (the Queen's brother) requested and obtained a dismissal from all his military employments. The King granted him a considerable pension, with the rank of field-marshal.

Prince Leopold of Brunswick (the brother-in-law of his Britannic Majesty) lost his life in endeavouring to relieve the inhabitants of a village that was overflowed at Frankfort-on-the-Oder.

While the Prince was standing at the side of the river, a woman threw herself at his feet, beseeching him to give orders for some persons to go to the rescue of her children, whom, bewildered by the sudden danger, she had left behind her in the house; some soldiers who were also in the same place, were crying out for help. The Prince endeavoured to procure a flat-bottomed boat, but no one could be found to venture across the river, even though his Highness promised large sums of money, and offered to share the danger. At last moved by the cries of the unfortunate inhabitants of the suburb, and being led by the sensibility of his own benevolent heart, he took the resolution of going to their assistance himself: those who were about him endeavoured to dissuade him from the hazardous enterprize; but touched to the soul by the distress of the miserable people, he replied in the following words: "What am I more than either you or they? I am a man like yourselves, and nothing ought to be attended to here but the voice of humanity." Unshaken therefore in his resolution, he immediately embarked with three watermen in a small boat, and crossed the river. The boat did not want above three lengths of the bank, when it struck against a tree, and in an instant they all disappeared. A few minutes after the Prince rose again, and supported himself a short time by taking hold of a tree; but the violence of the current soon bore him down, and he never appeared more. The boatmen, more fortu-

nate, were every one saved, and his Highness alone became the victim of his own humanity. Had it not been for the rapidity of the current his Highness would no doubt have been saved, as he was an excellent swimmer.

On the 8th of September the Archduke and Duchess of Austria (who had arrived from France on the 3d) went to Kew and breakfasted with their Majesties, the Princess Royal, and the Princess Augusta, in the great room in the palace. After breakfast the Royal company went to Richmond gardens; and after a promenade in that delightful spot, they viewed the observatory and cottage, and then returned to Kew gardens. While the Royal visitors were there, his Majesty drove one of his garden carriages with two horses.

On the 31st of October her Royal Highness Princess Amelia Sophia Eleonora, aunt to his Majesty, second daughter and the last surviving issue of George II, died at her house in Cavendish Square. Her Royal Highness was born June 10, 1711, was never married, and lived for many years in a retired manner. She had a singular prepossession that she should die in the month of October, as in that month the decease of her father and mother took place.

On the 11th of November the remains of her Royal Highness were privately interred in the royal vault in King Henry the VIIIth's chapel at Westminster. About half an hour past eight o'clock the procession began to move, passing

through the old Palace Yard to the south east door of the Abbey, upon a floor raised in, covered with black cloth, and under an awning lined at each side with a party of foot guards. The supporters of the pall were Ladies Pelham, Howard, Stowell, and Clifford. At the entrance of Westminster Abbey within the church, the Dean and Prebendary, attended by the choir, received the body, falling into the procession just before Norrey King of Arms, and proceeded to King Henry's chapel, where the body was deposited on tressels, the coronet and cushion being laid on the coffin, and the chief mourner (Duchess of Bolton, veiled) and her two supporters (Countess Dowager of Suffolk and Duchess of Northumberland, veiled) sitting at the head of the corpse; the ladies assistants and supporters of the pall on either side. Of the money which her Royal Highness had in the stocks, she bequeathed to Prince Charles of Hesse, 20,000*l.* to Prince Frederick, 20,000*l.* and to each of the executors 1,000*l.* She left annuities to several ladies, and bequests to servants, ladies of the bed-chamber, &c. No mourning was mentioned for any of the servants; but by a petition to Lord Beborough, mourning was ordered for all the household. The noble lord was opposed in his order, but honourably said, that if the Prince of Hesse refused to pay for it, he would discharge the expense out of his own pocket.

On the 29th of November Mr. Eden presented his Majesty with a picture of the King of France; richly set in diamonds.

Miss Burney, daughter of Dr. Burney, was appointed dresser to the Queen in the room of Mrs. Haggadorn, one of her Majesty's attendants from Germany, and who now wished to return to her own country.

Towards the close of this year a large ox weighing 280 stone was shown to his Majesty, in the Little Park, at Windsor, who ordered Mr. West to make a portrait of the animal.

Mrs. Inchbald, in her comedy of, "I'll tell you what," which was produced this year at the Theatre Royal, Haymarket, with great success, paid her Majesty a very handsome compliment for her conjugal affection. This lady, however, was not so fortunate in obtaining the patronage of the Queen as Mrs. Cowley, whose comedy of the "Belle's Stratagem" was frequently performed by command of their Majesties, and which Mrs. Cowley dedicated to the Queen. Their Majesties occasionally visited Mr. Colman's theatre, and, it is remarkable, that O'Keefe's musical entertainment of "Peeping Tom" (which is certainly a very broad piece) was highly relished by the King; who, whenever he honoured the theatre with his presence, and was asked what entertainment he wished for, generally fixed upon that. His Majesty was also highly delighted with Mr. Follett's clown, in a pantomime, wherein he apparently swallowed a number of large carrots.

The new year's ode was performed before their Majesties at St. James's, on the 4th of January, 1787, and the drawing-room was well attended.

The Queen and the two eldest Princesses appeared in two new head dresses, which for beauty and costliness equalled, if not exceeded, any thing of the kind ever seen at the British court. The lace and materials were the manufacture of the little female society established and patronized by the Queen, and chiefly consisting of the daughters of clergymen and reduced tradesmen.

The 18th was observed as the anniversary of her Majesty's birth-day, and the drawing-room was attended by all the nobility and people of distinction then in town. His Royal Highness the Prince of Wales was absent. The King was dressed in purple velvet, embroidered with gold, with a brilliant star of immense value.

The body and robe of her Majesty's dress were of lemon satin, the coat of white crape gauze, with rows of elegant black lace, quilled in stripes, intermixed with blue ribbands; the train was also bordered with black lace. The head dress was blond-lace, intermixt with blue and black ribband, and only one diamond pin in the front.

The Princesses Augusta and Elizabeth had the bodies and trains of their dresses alike, both of gold tissue. The Princess Augusta's head dress was ornamented with three elegant large white feathers, and two wreaths of flowers, and behind, a plume of nine feathers, with four large diamond pins. The Princess Elizabeth's head dress was nearly similar to her sister's.

The ball-room was not so much crowded as on

similar occasions. Their Majesties, accompanied by the Princesses Augusta and Elizabeth, entered the room at nine o'clock. Their Majesties retired at half-past eleven o'clock, after the Princesses had danced three country dances; and the ball ended a quarter before twelve.

On the 6th of February his Royal Highness the Prince of Wales was initiated into the mysteries of free-masonry at the Star and Garter, Pall-mall. His Royal Highness the Duke of Cumberland as Grand Master, the Duke of Norfolk, the Duke of Manchester, and several other noblemen of that respectable order attended at the ceremony.

The first dividend on the Prince of Wales's debts was nine per cent. which the creditors at this time were promised. His Royal Highness was at Richmond House on the 20th of April, where the comedy of the "Way to Keep Him" was privately performed. The characters were thus cast:

Lovemore, Lord Derby.

Sir Brilliant Fashion, Hon. Mr. Edgecumbe.

Sir Bashful Constant, Major Arabin.

William, Sir Harry Englefield.

Sideboard, Mr. Campbell.

Widow Belmour, Hon. Mrs. Hobart.

Mrs. Lovemore, Hon. Mrs. Damer.

Lady Constant, Miss Campbell.

Muslin, Mrs. Bruce.

Some additional lines were added to the prologue, in compliment to the Prince of Wales, who very condescendingly noticed this attention.

After the play a grand supper was served up, about twelve o'clock, which consisted of two courses and a dessert.

Among the audience present were his Royal Highness the Duke of Cumberland, Lord and Lady Stormont, Mrs. Fitzherbert, the Duchess of Devonshire, Mr. Dundas, Mr. Sheridan, and what was deemed very wonderful, Mr. Fox and Mr. Pitt came in together. The Duke of Richmond was sole attendant and master of the ceremonies on this occasion.

This performance was repeated on the 17th of May before the King and Queen, and their Royal Highnesses the Princess Royal, Princesses Augusta, Elizabeth, Mary, and Sophia.

The following prologue, written by the Right Hon. Gen. Conway, was spoken by the Hon. Mrs. Hobart :

" Since I was doomed to tread the awful stage,
 Thank Heaven that placed me in this polish'd age !
 There was a time I'm told when in a cart
 I might have play'd the lovely widow's part ;
 Or travell'd like a pedlar with a pack,
 And my whole homely wardrobe at my back ;
 But troth, I feel no fancy for such mumming,
 And sure one's dress should be at least becoming !
 No rainbow silk then flaunted in the wind,
 No gauzes swell'd before, nor cork behind ;
 No diamonds then with all their sparkling train,
 Nor rouge, nor powder, e'en a single grain,—
 But these were simple times the learn'd agree ;
 Simple indeed !—too simple much for me.

“ Another age produced a different scene,
All grand and stately, as the first was mean—
The change indeed was total *a' la lettre*,
But I can hardly say 'twas for the better.
For was't not strange to see a well drest play'r,
Strut on high buskins in the open air.
Then bawl to galleries high as any steeple,
Or squeak thro' pipes to forty thousand people.
Good Heav'n ! how horrid—what a monstrous notion !
'Twould quite deprive one of all speech and motion.
And then to wear one settled, strange grimace,
As endless simpers on a pasteboard face ;
To hide the beauties bounteous nature made,
Beneath a stifling Vizard's filthy shade ;
To lose of SIDMONS' glances the proud control,
Or swimming eye that paints the melting soul ;
Th' obedient brow that can be stern or meek,
The dimpling blush that dwells on FARREN's cheek,
The well tuned airs that suit each varying part,
And looks that talk the language of the heart !
These ancients, we're assured, were wondrous wits ;
In taste I'd rather trust our honest cits.
They might be learned with their musty rules,
For me, I set them down as arrant fools :
And must conclude, midst all those boasted arts,
The audiences had neither eyes nor hearts.

“ To modern stages too, in my conception,
One fairly might produce some just objection ;
Tis such a contrast—such a staring show,
Mobs shout above and critics snarl below ;
But when their battle, in its due array,
Vents its full rage on players or on play,
You'd think yourself a hundred leagues from shore,
The boatswain whistles and the monsters roar.

True ; for Ambition, 'tis an ample field,
Vast crops of praise its fertile regions yield ;
But rankling thorns infest the genial soil,
And keenest tempests bless the planter's toil.

“ While here, in this fair garden's calm retreat,
And once the Virtues' and the Muses' seat ;
Where friendly sons their kindest influence shed,
Each tender plant may dauntless rear its head.

“ Tho' no tall pine erect its stately charms,
No cedar spread around its tragic arms ;
Here Venus' myrtle may its sweets disclose,
Or virgin blushes tinge the new-blown rose ;
And sister arts their friendly aid may join,
For some fair brow a mingled wreath to twine.

“ But quitting metaphor—this humble band,
Who own your power, and bow to your command,
Shall scorn the noisy plaudits of the crowd,
The vain, the great, the fickle, and the loud ;
Blest in the candour of a chosen few,
Whose hearts are partial, to their judgments true.
You to their faults will be a little blind,
You to their talents will be very kind ;
And such th' applause we covet for our play,
Where the heart dictates, and the hands obey.”

Thus the prologue was originally spoken ; but afterwards some lines were omitted, in order to introduce the following on the night of performance before the Prince of Wales and the Duke of Cumberland :

“ And should those favour'd feats, this happy night,
Shine with a lustre eminently bright ;
Should royal greatness humbly condescend,
To lay the Prince aside and act the friend ;

Indulgent to the liberal arts they love,
 They'll strive to pardon faults they can't approve ;
 And could their flattering smiles with equal ease,
 As the ambition, give the power to please,
 We'd fill the mimic as the real part,
 'And pay in duty what we want in art.'

On the representation before the King and the Queen, the following lines were introduced towards the conclusion of the original prologue :

" Here in the peaceful silence of the grove,
 Sacred to friendship and to friendly love,
 If an unlicens'd, tho' not venal hand,
 Have dar'd with zealous, yet with trembling hand,
 Ent'ring with pious awe their hallow'd shrine,
 To raise an altar to the heavenly Nine ;
 If strongly ardent in so fair a cause,
 We have transgressed while we revere the laws,
 Ev'n Cæsar's self, their guardian and their friend,
 Will thro' our error see its nobler end ;
 Patron of arts he'd own the generous flame,
 The friends of Taste and Freedom are the same.
 And should those gracious pow'rs who might restrain,
 Even by their presence consecrate our scene ;
 Kindly indulgent to the Muse they love,
 Shou'd they protect attempts they might reprove,
 With condescension that each fear beguiles,
 You'll read our licence in their fav'ring smiles."

The following epilogue written by the Right Hon. Lieut. General Burgoyne, was spoken by the Hon. Mrs. Damer on this occasion :

" ' The Way to keep him'—is the task so hard,
 When life's best lot is the assured reward ?

Does man, unthinking man, his share despise,
 Or does weak woman throw away the prize?
 'Tis in ourselves our empire to maintain,
 I've traced the happy image in my brain,
 Smiling she sits and weaves her rosy chain.
 Oh! could my humble skill, which often strove,
 In mimic stone, to copy forms I love,
 By soft gradation reach a higher art,
 And bring to view a sculpture of the heart!
 I'll try, and cull materials as they're scatter'd,
 Not from one object, lest 'twere said I flatter'd.
 First, Temper—gentle, uniform, obedient—
 Yes, mighty sirs, we know your grand ingredient;
 I have it in that face—th' example's down—*(writing)*
 That seldom wears and never meets a frown,
 Vivacity and Wit *(looking round)* I'll take from you,
 And Sentiment, from Lady—I know who,
 Truth and Discretion—there—how they adorn her,
 And Delicacy—peeping from that corner.
 For Sensibility, where smiles and sighs,
 In pain or joy with blended softness rise,
 I see it breaking thro' yon lovely bloom—
 For a desire to please—I'll—~~look~~ at home.
 Hypocrisy—don't start—she wants one grain,
 One little atom, just to cover Pain;
 When not content with blessings in her power,
 Her truant robs her av'rice of an hour;
 My compound's right, ere next we meet, I'll mould it,
 And find among you a fit case to hold it.
 Ye sons of taste, who would such charms obey,
 Cou'd you but find them wrapt in mortal clay,
 Complete Pygmalion's part—adore and pray!
 For the most worthy Venus shall decide,
 Awake the statue and present the bride."

On the night of the performance before the King and Queen, the seven last lines were omitted, and the following introduced instead :

“ Such are the gifts th’ attentive loves should bring,
A hoop of gems to guard the bridal ring.
Need I, here, point to virtues more sublime,
Unchanged by fashion, unimpaired by time.
To higher duties of connubial ties !
To mutual blessings that from duties rise !
Your looks—your hearts—the bright assemblage own,
Which heav’n to emulative life has shown,
And placed, in double lustre, on a throne.”

Private plays now became very fashionable, and the ladies and gentlemen were frequently assisted in their Thespian amusements by some experienced performer belonging to one of the Theatres Royal.

The Prince of Wales’s embarrassments were at this time taken into consideration in the House of Commons, where Mr. Fox, in a very able manner, deprecated the unjust reports which had been propagated on the occasion. His Royal Highness was on Guildford Course on the 25th of May : he dined in town, went to the Duchess of Gordon’s assembly, and from thence to Lady Gideon’s to supper ; but on entering the house found himself so attacked by a violent disorder, that he returned to Carlton House in a sedan ; the complaint was occasioned by taking a draught of cooling liquors after being warm with dancing. As his Royal Highness continued ill the next day, Dr. Jebb and several of the faculty were sent for. His

Majesty did not see the Prince of Wales at this time, which was the reason of his Royal Highness's absence from the Queen's birth-day. At the time of Margaret Nicholson's attempt on the life of the King, the Prince, as soon as he heard it, travelled post to Windsor, and had an interview with the Queen. His Majesty knew that his Royal Highness was in the house, but did not think proper to summon him to his presence. The Prince on his part did not demand an interview, because court etiquette seemed to have placed the necessity of the first overture on the other side, and because his Royal Highness probably imagined he had sufficiently evinced, by his visit, the tenderest solicitude for the welfare of his Royal Father. To account for this apparent coldness on the part of his Majesty, it is necessary to observe, that the King was supposed to be displeased with the circumstance of the Prince having discharged his household without consulting his inclinations, or demanding his consent. It was also generally believed that the report of a private marriage between his Royal Highness and Mrs. Fitzherbert was the occasion of the distance which at this time subsisted between his Majesty and the Prince. Mr. Fox, Mr. Sheridan, and other gentlemen in the confidence of his Royal Highness, asserted that the talk of marriage was a vile and malignant falsehood; and the Parliamentary debates on this subject were so warm, that an interview, at the desire of the King, took place between

the Prince of Wales and Mr. Pitt at Carlton House, when the latter intimated, that if the intended motion for discussion in the House of Commons were withdrawn, every thing might be settled to his Royal Highness's satisfaction. Soon after, a message from the King to the House requested the assistance of Parliament to discharge his Royal Highness's debts, at the same time regretting that their amount was so large, but assured that the Prince would for the future confine his expenses to his income. An address was consequently voted to his Majesty, praying that he would graciously direct the sum of one hundred and sixty-one thousand pounds to be paid out of the civil list for the full discharge of the debts of the Prince of Wales, and the farther sum of twenty thousand pounds to complete the repairs of Carlton House.

On the 26th the King and Queen, accompanied by the Princess Royal, the Princess Augusta and Princess Elizabeth, preceded by the Dukes of Montague and Ancaster, went to see Mr. Whitbread's porter brewery in Chiswell-street. They were received at the door by Mr. Whitbread and Miss Whitbread, when, after politely declining the breakfast that was provided, their Majesties and the Royal Family went over the works. The steam-engine then lately erected, and first applied by Mr. Whitbread to the purposes of the brewery, took up their attention above half an hour, during which time his Majesty explained to the Queen

and the Princesses the leading movements to the machinery, in a manner that fully proved his knowledge of mechanical arts. In the great store were three thousand and seven barrels of beer. The stone cistern raised such wonder, that the Queen and Princesses would go into it, though, through a small hole, with some difficulty, and the sight rewarded them for the trouble, on account of its vast magnitude, capable of holding 4000 barrels of beer. Though the machinery now used had saved much animal labour, still there was work for eighty horses. This particularly impressed his Majesty, who also saw two hundred men at their various occupations. The horse-keeper, yielding to the harmless vanity of office, said he would show his Majesty "the highest horse among his subjects." The King graciously gave him something more than audience, and accurately guessed the height of the horse, which was really remarkable, being 17 hands three inches. The King however observed that his muscle was not proportioned to his bones. Such parts of the brewery as were unavoidably dirty were covered with matting, and lamps lighted in those which were dark. After having inspected every part of the premises in a minute manner, the Royal visitants retired into the dwelling-house, and partook of a cold collation, as magnificent as affluence and arrangement could render it. The whole service was plate, and there was an assortment of every wine; and that the board might not be incomplete, some of White-

bread's *intire* was poured from a large bottle that had more excellent singularities than mere size to recommend it. After partaking of this plentiful regale, it was two o'clock; and their Majesties and Royal Family took leave of Mr. Whitbread and his daughter, highly satisfied with the various species of their entertainment.

On the 28th the grand festival at Westminster Abbey commenced. The selection was principally from the "Esther" of Handel, and arranged with taste and effect. The band was equally numerous with any that appeared on a similar occasion, and conducted by Bates and Cramer. The vocal performers had Mara at their head, and Kelly and Storace were also added this year. Their Majesties, the Princesses, and the Duke of Cumberland attended; but the indisposition of the Prince of Wales prevented his appearance. On the 31st the favourite oratorio of "The Messiah" was performed. The third performance was a miscellaneous concert, June the 2d, and on the 5th the "Messiah" was performed a second time by desire. The receipts this year were 13,742*l.* 13*s.*

On the 30th of May, in the Grand Cartoon Chamber, Buckingham House, the King and Queen had the comedy of the "Jealous Wife" read to them by Mrs. Siddons and Mr. Kemble. Five Princesses, with Lords Harcourt, Aylesbury, and Aylesford, Sir Charles Thompson, the Duchesses of Richmond, Hamilton, and Lancaster, Lady Sydney, &c. were present. Mrs. Sid-

dons read the parts of Mrs. Oakley, Major Oakley, Harriet, Russett, and Lord Trinket. Mr. Kemble read Mr. Oakley, Charles, and John. These performers had little opportunity of displaying their abilities, as neither of them was eminent in comic parts. Mrs. Siddons was very much fatigued with standing. Ices and all sorts of refreshments were in the adjoining rooms. The hour at which the entertainment began was a little before nine, and it concluded at twelve.

The King's birthday this year exhibited little of splendour or novelty. The absence of the Prince of Wales prevented the court from being much crowded. The assemblage within the vicinity of the Palace was gay and elegant, and, comparatively, much more numerous than in the drawing-room.

Their Majesties, accompanied by the Princess Royal, Princess Augusta, and Princess Elizabeth, and their suite, entered the ball-room about nine o'clock. The dresses were light and fanciful. The King appeared in a half mourning suit, and wore black silk stockings. The Queen had a straw-coloured ground gown and petticoat, trimmed with blond and silver crape, drawn up in festoons, with strings of large pearls, and enriched with a cluster of diamonds; tassels of diamonds playing also in the front of the drapery, and relieved by azure blue ribbands. The magnificence of this dress was distinguished by a display of bulrushes and clusters, the heads of which were enriched by

rows of large diamonds, and produced a beautiful effect. Her Majesty's cap was a loose bandeau of fine blond net, ornamented with diamonds.

The Princess Royal had a pink and brown mixed ground, covered with silver embroidery, chequered and ornamented with two large wreaths of artificial flowers. Also an elegant blond cap, ornamented with roses and feathers.

Princess Augusta had a deep straw-coloured ground, embroidered with purple and silver foils in waves; with bunches of flowers in cornucopiæ at the point of each festoon. Princess Elizabeth's dress was the same; and the Princesses Mary, Sophia, and Amelia appeared in robes of white, spangled.

The minuets were long and tedious, it having been near twelve o'clock before they had concluded: the country-dances then began: but at the close of the second dance the King intimated his pleasure that the ball might be terminated, on which the parties broke off, and their Majesties and Princesses retired.

On the 7th of June the Prince of Wales was pronounced out of danger, and the following day his Royal Highness took an airing in his carriage, and was at the levee at St. James's on the 28th.

On the 23d the Princess Royal, Princess Augusta, and Princess Mary were all ill of the measles, but not dangerously.

On the 2d of August, between twelve and one o'clock, his Royal Highness the Duke of York,

after an absence of seven years, arrived from Germany, and soon after set out for Windsor. On the 8th his Royal Highness was, by his Majesty's command, introduced into the Privy Council by the Right Hon. Earl Camden, Lord President, when his Royal Highness took his place at the upper end of the board, on his Majesty's left hand.

The Prince of Wales's birth-day was publicly observed this year for the first time since his Royal Highness came of age, at Windsor, with every demonstration of joy. There was a royal dinner, and a concert, tea and supper, to which a select party of nobility and gentry were invited, and the town of Windsor was illuminated in the evening.

The birth-day of his Royal Highness the Duke of York was also observed at Windsor in the same manner.

A ceremony of a very interesting nature took place in St. George's Chapel, Windsor, on the 4th of September, called "An Offering from the Knights of the Garter." The chapter must consist of three knights. His Majesty presided as Sovereign of the order; the other two members were his Royal Highness the Duke of York and his Grace the Duke of Montague. This ceremony began in the following manner. His Majesty, first bending in reverence of the solemn nature of the place, walked up in the middle of the chapel, and repeated this reverence at the half way distance

from the altar, arriving at which he knelt and deposited on it a golden ingot. The Duke of York followed and repeated the same ceremony with great exactness. The Duke of Montague closed the whole by another repetition of the ceremony, depositing also the gold ingot. Suitable prayers were said on the occasion, and the ingots, with other contributions, were appropriated to the benefit of the poor.

On the 8th, a Thomas Stone underwent a long examination at Bow-street office, before several of the faculty and some justices of the peace, for having written a very extraordinary letter to the Queen, avowing his ardent passion for the Princess Royal; and hoping, if their Majesties approved of his proposal of marriage, he and her eldest daughter would be a very happy couple. After this the man appeared at St. James's, and begged leave to be introduced in form, for, not having had an answer, he considered his proposal as acceded to—"silence gave consent." The people, however, whom he addressed did not pay that respect and attention which he expected. Accordingly he went to Kew; and here he was seized and confined till he could be conveyed to the public office in Bow-street, where he confessed to have conceived an attachment for her Royal Highness, and that she had conceived the same, he thought, for him. A great many papers on the subject of love were found upon him addressed to her Serene Highness

the Princess Royal, including the following lines, which were submitted to the critical examination of Dr. Munro :

- “ To her Highness the Princess Royal.
 “ Thrice glad were I to be your willing slave,
 “ But not the captive of the tool or knave ;
 “ With wo on wo you melt my sighing breast,
 “ Whilst you reject your humble would-be guest.
 “ T. S.”

He was a heavy-looking man, about thirty-three years of age, a native of Shaftesbury, and the son of a floor-cloth painter. He was brought up an attorney. His conversation was very unconnected : he declared that his heart had been stolen from him three years before ; and till the preceding March he did not know who was the thief, when, being at the play on that night, he saw the Princess Royal look up at the two shilling gallery. From these evident marks of insanity he was directed to be confined till further orders in Bethlem Hospital.

At the drawing-room, the 6th of October, the Neapolitan ambassador introduced six gentlemen, who brought over a rich present for the Queen from the King of Naples, consisting of a complete set of dishes and plates, on which were painted the history of the Tuscan war and the story of Phaeton, with a different representation on every piece. These were accompanied by a number of emblematical figures about eighteen inches high, with about eight characters and sixteen horses,

beautifully imagined ; a pyramid in the middle represented the muses with their cymbals, salts, &c, in the antique style, and covers of different sorts for the table, sideboard and dessert, were executed after the Roman manner. The images were all of a beautiful white, and the countenance of each firmly expressed. This Royal present was in return for several pieces of remarkably fine brass cannon, presented long before by his Britannic Majesty to the King of Naples, and which were mounted on a favourite frigate, on board of which the King passed much of his time.

Their Royal Highnesses the Duke and Duchess of Gloucester arrived at Gloucester House, in Upper Grosvenor-street, from the Continent, on the 12th of November. The Duke at this time received an addition of 5000*l.* a year to his income, which the King thought fit to grant him on account of the necessary increase in his expences by his children being grown up.

The King now caused it to be known to the nobility and gentry of all the Royal households, that it would be expected they should dispense with all Sunday evening concerts and entertainments of every kind, the ensuing winter, as every thing of that nature would be discountenanced by his Majesty.

At this time their Majesties were frequently lampooned by Dr. Wolcot, under the assumed name of *Peter Pindar*. He was descended from a respectable family in Devonshire, and bred to

the study of physic. He was made the governor of Jamaica during the administration of Lord Shelburne, where he was at the summit of medical elevation, having been appointed physician-general to the island. It is said that during his residence in Jamaica he was induced to enter into the clerical function, but being disappointed in an important preferment, he relinquished the character of a divine before his departure for England. On his return he resumed and pursued his original profession for several years. He then commenced his poetical career, having always displayed an attachment to the ladies of Helicon, and chiefly indulged himself in satire. He had no rival in his days, and his works were consequently read with avidity. They were not deficient either in point or humour, but they really did not possess that great merit which the readers of his day imagined. If Doctor Wolcot had had to contend with a COLMAN THE YOUNGER, there would not have been so many "*broad grins*" at his productions, and in all probability many of his readers would have called for their "*Night-gown and Slippers*." His chief work against their Majesties was a mock-heroic poem, called "*The Lousiad*," which, it must be acknowledged, possesses wit, humour, and strength. The foundation of this poem was the discovery made by the King one night at supper of a *something* on his plate, which had green peas on it. This something was a *hair*, probably from a human head, and which

must have disgusted every delicate stomach. The cooks, scullions, &c. were therefore ordered to be shaved, and they very reluctantly underwent the operation. The poet converted (*licentia poetica*) the *hair* into a *creeper*, in a manner that showed great disrespect to sovereignty ; hence comes the title of the poem, the *Lousiad*. Doctor Wolcot no doubt expected a pension, and after much labour, he obtained one. He did not long outlive the Queen. Having always expressed a wish to be buried close to Mr. Butler's grave, his remains were deposited in St. Paul's church-yard, Covent-garden, as near as possible to the author of "*Hu-dibras*."

On the 5th of January, 1788, their Royal Highnesses the Prince of Wales and Duke of York arrived in Plymouth about eleven o'clock at night in a coach and six ; where Prince William Henry, commander of the Pegasus frigate, had previously been for some days. He immediately went to meet his Royal brothers, and the following morning their Royal Highnesses, accompanied by several naval and military officers, visited the Dock-yard, and surveyed every thing curious there. At seven they dined with a select party, and at eleven o'clock proceeded to the Long-room store-house, where was an assemblage of the principal ladies and gentlemen of Plymouth and its environs. On their entering the room the three brothers walked arm in arm, the Prince of Wales in the centre ; they received and paid the compliments of the

whole company with affability, dignity, and ease. Their Royal Highnesses danced with Miss Winne, Miss Calton, Mrs. Depeister, Miss Fanshawe, and Miss Arthur. The dancing did not finish till one o'clock, when their Royal Highnesses retired.

On the 6th their Royal Highnesses went afloat, and the whole fleet in Hamoaze immediately manned ship, and saluted with twenty-one guns each. After riding to Maker Heights, and taking a survey of Whitsand Bay, Penlie Point, and the Ram Head, they returned to Dock, dined, and in the evening went to the Long-room. The next day, taking coach at the Barrier Gate, they drove through the town very slowly, and being again saluted from the ramparts of the citadel with twenty-one guns, they set out on their return to London.

According to custom her Majesty's birth-day was observed on the 18th. The drawing-room was uncommonly brilliant and numerous. More of the Royal Family had assembled on the occasion than had been collected at one time in that circle for many years. Besides the Prince of Wales, the Duke of York, and the Princesses, their Royal Highnesses the Dukes of York and Cumberland were present.

At the trial of Warren Hastings, Esq. in Westminster Hall, on the 13th of February, previous to their Lordships' approach, about eleven o'clock, her Majesty, with the Princesses Elizabeth, Augusta, and Mary, made their appearance in the

Duke of Newcastle's box. The Queen was attended by the Duchess of Ancaster, Lady Holderness, Lord Aylesbury, &c. She was dressed in a fawn-coloured satin; her head-dress plain, with a very slender sprinkling of diamonds. As her Majesty came without state, the usual etiquette was dispensed with, and she suffered the Duchess of Ancaster, Lady Holderness, and the young daughters of Lady Lincoln to sit on the same seat with her. The ladies were all in morning dresses; a few appeared with feathers and variegated flowers in their head-dress, but there was nothing remarkable. The Royal box was graced with the Duchess of Gloucester and the young Prince, who was educated entirely at the expence of the King.

The Royal box in Westminster Hall was on the right hand of the Chancellor; on the left was the box for the Princes. Mrs. Fitzherbert was in a conspicuous situation.

Prince William was entered at Trinity College, Cambridge: his private tutor was Dr. Walesby. The only distinction between the Prince and a gentleman commoner in his academical pursuits, was, that the former was allowed a coach for the benefit of relaxing himself from his studies, when the weather was so bad as to prevent his riding; and his having levees every Saturday morning, where the masters and several of the heads of the colleges, paid their compliments.

On the 1st of March their Majesties honoured

the private exhibition at Richmond House with their presences, when the comedy of the "Wonder," and the "Guardian," were performed by ladies and gentlemen. The Queen was habited in a style of simple elegance; white satin and gold, adorned with a most brilliant and fanciful arrangement of diamonds. The King was dressed in scarlet, and appeared remarkably cheerful. The ladies were without caps and feathers, and the gentlemen in full dressed plain suits. About eighty persons of fashionable distinction were present.

On the 11th of April his Majesty, attended by one equerry and two servants on horseback, passed through the Strand to Somerset Place, and inspected the military hospital which was erected for the purpose on the terrace, on the front towards the Thames. It was invented by Mr. Wyatt, and could be removed by two waggons. This military hospital was intended for the West Indies, the general construction of which was highly admired by the King, who viewed the apparatus from the Navy-Office hall. The building was taken entirely to pieces in fourteen minutes, and put up again in forty.

At Westminster Abbey eleven distinguished personages having been installed Knights of the Bath, May the 19th, the Queen, accompanied by the Princess Royal, the Princesses Augusta, Elizabeth, Mary, Sophia, and Amelia, went privately, and were seated at the south end. After the Knights had gone round the Abbey, her Majesty

and the Princesses retired and went to Buckingham House. The Knights gave their celebrated ball on the 25th, at which the first characters of fashion were assembled. The ball commenced a little before one, and at half-past two the company sat down to supper.

On the 20th, in the afternoon, as Princess Elizabeth was sitting in her apartment, her Royal Highness was surprised by the abrupt entrance of a stranger of mean appearance. The Princess, extremely alarmed, precipitately quitted the room at an opposite door, and related the extraordinary circumstance to the attendants in waiting. Mr. Millar, one of the pages, immediately went to the Palace, and seized the man, who refused to assign the cause of his being in the Palace, or by what means he obtained admittance. When brought to the Lodge, the porter asserted he had not the most remote recollection of his entrance or person. The intruder was then suffered to depart, but in a short time returned and peremptorily insisted on being introduced to the Princess, "that he might pour out the ardency of his passion, and at her feet press for an equal return." He was then detained, and information of this singular occurrence dispatched to Lord Sydney. On his examination before a magistrate he said his name was Spang, by profession a hair-dresser. Evident marks of insanity appearing, he was committed to Tothill-fields bridewell, until further directions, and ordered to be kept in a separate apartment, and

treated with the utmost tenderness. It is supposed he got over the wall in the Green Park into the Queen's gardens, and so entered the Palace.

The same testimonials of public respect were paid on his Majesty's birth-day this year as before. At an early hour their Royal Highnesses the Prince of Wales and Duke of York came to Buckingham House to compliment their Majesties on the occasion ; as likewise did several of the nobility. The Royal brothers afterwards breakfasted with their Majesties and the Princesses *en famille*. The drawing-room was very splendid, several rich dresses having been displayed ; those of the Queen and Princesses were, in some respects, surprisingly brilliant. The ball-room was by no means crowded ; within the dancing circle, however, there were the usual number of fair candidates. Their Majesties and the Princesses entered at half-past nine, preceded by the officers of state ; and the overture of " Sampson " was played on the entrance of the King, and continued till their Majesties were seated. The Prince of Wales went down two minuets with the Princess Royal and Princess Augusta, and the Duke of York with Princess Elizabeth and Lady M. Montague. After the minuets, the country-dances commenced. Their Majesties retired about twelve, and the company dispersed.

At a quarter before seven o'clock in the morning of July the 12th, their Majesties, the Princess Royal, Princesses Augusta and Elizabeth, set out from Windsor, and proceeded to the Earl of Harcourt's,

at Nuneham; and after staying there two hours, continued their journey to Cheltenham, where they arrived a little before five in the afternoon. The concourse of people was very great in all the towns through which their Majesties and their Royal Highnesses passed, and every demonstration of loyalty was shown on the occasion. The next morning (Sunday) their Majesties and the Princesses attended divine service at the parish church, where a sermon was preached by the Lord Bishop of Gloucester. The Royal Family resided at Fauconberg's Lodge, on an eminence, about a quarter of a mile from the town, and about two hundred yards from the Spa. It was said that the great object of the King's journey was to keep off the gout; his complaint for some time past having been a flying gout, which his physicians could readily fix by the use of a proper regimen, but his Majesty dreaded such a lodgment, as it would of course prevent him from using that exercise which had been so much his habit as well as inclination. Cheltenham waters were recommended for this purpose. The physicians, no doubt, saw at this time the absolute necessity there was for employing his Majesty's mind.

At six in the morning of the 16th, the King and Princess Royal were at the Spa. About seven o'clock they retired. At ten, the King, Queen, and three Princesses, attended by Lord and Lady Courtoun, Colonels Digby and Gwynne, Miss Burney, &c. set off for Tewkesbury. Having

walked about Tewkesbury, viewed the inside of the church, and every thing worthy of attention; they returned to Cheltenham about three o'clock. When his Majesty rode into Tewkesbury, the people stood upon the walls of the bridge to see him pass. Observing them in that dangerous situation, he said, " My good people, I am afraid some of you may fall—don't run such hazards to see your King; I will ride as slowly as you please, that you may all have a sight."

On the 19th their Majesties, the Princesses, and attendants went to Cirencester, and from thence to Lord Bathurst's delightful seat of Oakly Grove. Their Majesties were particular in viewing the parks and woods, and expressed great satisfaction at seeing the new river which his lordship was then cutting: they returned to Fauconberg Lodge about four o'clock to dinner.

On the 24th the King, Queen, and the three Princesses visited the city of Gloucester. Their Majesties and their Royal Highnesses alighted at the Bishop's Palace, who, attended by the Dean and Chapter of the Cathedral, and the Clergy of the diocese, addressed the King on the occasion. His Majesty received them very graciously, and they had also the honour of being presented to the Queen. The Mayor and Corporation of Gloucester then attended, and the Town Clerk addressed his Majesty in their name. They were likewise presented to the Queen. Their Majesties afterwards visited the cathedral, the pin-manufac-

tory of Mr. Alderman Weaver, the county infirmary, and the gaol then building, agreeably to a plan of Sir George Paul and Mr. Howard. Their Majesties then returned to the Bishop's palace, and as soon as their equipages were ready, set out with the Princesses on their return to Cheltenham. Though the concourse of people in the streets of Gloucester were immense, through the attention of the magistrates their Majesties were not in the least incommoded.

It was said that the King received great benefit from the water of Cheltenham. His Majesty was constantly at the Spa a little after six in the morning, drank a glass of the water, then walked half an hour with the Queen and Princesses, who likewise drank the water. The King took a second glass, and about half after seven the Royal party returned to Fauconberg House. His Majesty handed the Queen and Princesses to their carriages, and then set out himself on foot. About eleven o'clock his Majesty was constantly on horseback, paying no regard to the state of the weather. He was attended by Lord Courtoun and Colonel Digby, and followed by two of his grooms. Then came the coach of her Majesty and Princesses, each attended by two servants. They generally took the road to the hills on the east of Cheltenham, returned about two, dined at four, and at seven appeared in the walks. When the King met any of the nobility or gentry in the walks whom he knew, he stopped and conversed with



His Majesty.
GEORGE THE THIRD
Engraved by Jas. Hopwood, Junr.

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them a few minutes : on these occasions he took off his hat, and frequently also to pass and repass. His Majesty often walked in the fields near the house ; and in his walks he met many people whom he accidentally met ; as he was a very plain man, he was not always known. The commonalty behaved in a very respectful manner, uncovering whenever the Royal party approached. During one of his Majesty's private walks he met a farmer in a great heat. " So friend," said the King, " you seem very warm." " Yes, Sir," said the man, " I came along way, for I want to see the King ; I understand he is here in Cheltenham." " Well, my friend," said the monarch, giving him half a guinea, " here is something to refresh you after your walk." " But where, worthy sir," said the man, " Can I see the King ?" " Friend," returned his Majesty, " you see him now before you." This instance of Royal condescension quite confounded the poor man.

On the 25th the Royal tourists honoured Lord Coventry with their company to dinner. Every thing which taste, elegance, and magnificence could accomplish, was displayed on the occasion. The cellar doors were thrown open, and the vast multitude that had assembled round the house were plentifully regaled with good October. About half a dozen or more waggish farmers, in spite of every remonstrance from the coachman and postillions, jumped into the Royal coach and saluted their

spouses. When his Majesty was informed of their freak, he laughed heartily, and commended the men for their spirit and civility. The King, Queen, and Princesses walked in the park upwards of an hour.

About eight o'clock in the evening of August the 5th, the Royal Family arrived at the Bishop's palace, in the city of Worcester. Early the next morning the King, attended by two noblemen, walked through several parts of the city, followed by a prodigious number of people. His Majesty took notice of the neat appearance of the buildings and the cleanliness of the streets. At ten o'clock a levee was held at the palace. The Bishop, Dean, Chapter, and other Clergy, waited on the King, when the Bishop in their name addressed his Majesty, who was pleased to return them a very gracious answer, and they had the honour to kiss his Majesty's hand. The corporation of Worcester were then introduced by the Earl of Oxford, when the Earl of Coventry, recorder of Worcester, complimented the King in their name, in a very elegant and loyal speech, to which his Majesty returned a gracious answer, and the corporation had also the honour to kiss his Majesty's hand. The nobility and gentry of the county afterwards waited on the King, who conferred the honour of knighthood on Mr. Charles Withers.

Their Majesties and the Princesses then attended divine service at the cathedral, where a

charity sermon was preached by the Rev. Dr. Langford, one of the canons of Windsor and chaplain in ordinary to his Majesty, for the support of the widows and children of the three choirs of Worcester, Gloucester, and Hereford.

The next morning the Royal Family were again present at the Cathedral, where a selection from the Abbey music was ably performed.

On the 8th the corporation, conducted by Lord Coventry, in his recorder's robes, waited on his Majesty to request he would honour them with a visit at the town-hall, to which the King graciously assented. A grand procession accordingly took place. The various trades with their streamers led their way; the maces were borne by the aldermen, and the mayor carried the sword of state before his Majesty. After having viewed the pictures, regalia, and every thing curious, he was shown into the grand parlour, where an elegant cold collation was provided. As his Majesty never took any liquor before dinner, the mayor asked him if he would be pleased to take a jelly, when the King replied "I do not recollect drinking a glass of wine before dinner in my life, yet, upon this pleasing occasion, I will venture." A glass of rich old mountain was served by the Mayor, when his Majesty immediately drank, "Prosperity to the Corporation and Citizens of Worcester." This being made known to the populace, a universal shout of applause continued for several minutes. The King then addressed himself to the corpora-

tion to know if there was anything he could oblige them in. The Earl of Coventry, the recorder, replied in the name of the citizens, that they "tendered their sincere and grateful thanks for the honour his Majesty had done the city of Worcester, and if he would be graciously pleased to sit for his picture, to be placed in the hall, he would gratify their highest wishes." His Majesty replied, "Certainly, gentlemen, I do not hesitate to grant you that favour, or any other which you can reasonably expect." This ceremony concluded, the Royal Family again repaired to the cathedral, where the "Messiah" was performed.

In the evening there was a grand miscellaneous concert, which the Royal visitors honoured with their presence. They had declined appearing the two preceding evenings. An elegant box had been fitted up for their reception in the gallery of the music-room, so that the numerous company had a full view of the Royal Family. The King was dressed in his blue and gold uniform; and the Queen and Princesses in royal purple gowns, with silver tissue petticoats. Her Majesty's head dress was a cap decorated with purple ribbands, studded with beads of polished steel, no less brilliant (for a time) than the finest diamonds. The Princesses wore their hair ornamented very gracefully, with gauze and flowers, their slippers adorned with the polished steel rosettes which had been just invented by Bailey of Gloucester. The next morning their Majesties returned to Cheltenham.

The Queen was indisposed on the 13th, so that the Royal visit to the clothing country was deferred to the next day. Accordingly, early on the morning of the 14th, their Majesties left Cheltenham to make their intended visit to Lord Ducie and Sir George Paul, of which previous intimation had been given. They passed through Painswick about half after eight, and arrived at Stroud between 9 and 10 o'clock. A very respectable party of gentlemen met and conducted the Royal visitors through this district of the county, referring to all those objects which were worthy of attention. Their Majesties passed an hour with Mr. O. Paul, (who displayed every branch of the woollen manufacture,) and having partaken of a *dejeuné* at Hill House, they proceeded to Spring Park, the seat of Lord Ducie, where a cold collation was provided.

On the 15th, the King rode to Gloucester from Cheltenham, attended by his equerry, to pay a morning visit to the Bishop, with whom he passed an hour. His Majesty returned in the same private manner, and in the evening the Royal Family went to the play, when an occasional address was spoken, which contained the following lines :

" All hearts must worship this dear hallow'd ground,
Health at whose fount the King of Freedom found!
Long may this spring preserve Great Britain free,
By observing him who guards our liberty!
Here may his virtuous consort often dwell,
Th' adored Hygeia of our royal well!

And oh ! may these, high Windsor's charming graces,
In this low vale show oft their blooming faces ;
Where the meek eye unfolds the modest mind—
Tho' young—examples to all womankind !”

The next morning their Majesties and the Princess Royal, Princess Augusta, and Princess Elizabeth set out from Cheltenham at eight o'clock, the nobility, gentry, and inhabitants of that place and its neighbourhood, having been assembled to testify their respect on the occasion. The music of the town played “ God save the King,” in slow time, and the band of the 29th answered in responses. At half an hour after one their Majesties and the Princesses alighted at Earl Harcourt's seat at Nuneham, where they remained till near six o'clock in the evening ; and at half an hour after nine arrived in perfect health at their royal residence in Windsor.

About this time his Royal Highness the Duke of York purchased Otlands, near Weybridge, of the Duke of Newcastle.

It soon appeared that his Majesty was afflicted with a worse disorder than the gout ; the first symptoms were observed in the early part of October, which encreased so much that on the 17th it was found necessary to postpone the levee at St. James's. His Majesty had caught cold (it was thought,) by walking over some wet grass. This brought on a rheumatic pain which fixed in his stomach, but it was soon removed into the extremities, and on the 24th his Majesty was so much

recovered as to appear at the levee. The 4th of November brought a relapse, attended with a violent pain in the bowels. On the 6th, the symptoms were very alarming: the most eminent physicians were called in to a consultation, and the great officers of state were sent for. His disorder appeared to be of a very melancholy nature; and on the 11th it was thought necessary to send an official account every day, of his Majesty's situation, to the lord in waiting at St. James's. On the 13th, a form of prayer for his Majesty's recovery was ordered by the lords of the privy council to be prepared by the Archbishop of Canterbury. Moreover, in consequence of the singular situation of government, circular letters were sent to both houses of parliament, requiring their attendance on the 20th. The two houses of parliament met accordingly; but no commission having been issued either for holding or for a further prorogation of parliament, it was unanimously agreed to adjourn to the 4th of December. His Majesty's disorder was an oppression of the brain, attended by a fever.

On the 29th, the Royal family removed from Windsor to Kew. His Majesty was attended in his coach by General Harcourt, Colonel Goldsworthy, and Colonel Greville. Her Majesty went in her own carriage, accompanied by her Royal Highness the Princess Augusta. Their Royal Highnesses the Prince of Wales and Duke of York followed soon after. Their Majesties arrived

at Kew about half an hour after five in the afternoon, and the king bore the journey very well.

As this was a severe winter his Royal Highness the Duke of York ordered an additional bushel of coals per week to every married man in his regiment. A large quantity of coals was also given away to the poor of St. James's and St. Martin's, by the direction of the Prince of Wales.

Soon after the reassembling of Parliament the House of Commons, in a committee of the whole house, passed the two following resolutions; the first unanimously, and the second by 208 voices against 204.

I. That it is the opinion of this Committee that his Majesty is prevented by indisposition from coming to his parliament, and from attending to public business, and that the personal exercise of the Royal authority is thereby, for the present, interrupted.

II. That it is the opinion of this Committee, that it is the right and duty of the Lords spiritual and temporal, and Commons of Great Britain now assembled, and lawfully, fully, and freely representing all the estates of the people of this realm, to provide the means of supplying the defect of the personal exercise of the Royal authority, arising from his Majesty's said indisposition, in such a manner as the exigency of the case may appear to require.

They had likewise adjourned to a future day the consideration of the following resolution.

III. Resolved, that for this purpose and for maintaining entire the constitutional authority of the King, it is necessary that the said Lords and Commons should determine on the means whereby the Royal assent may be given in Parliament to such bill as may be passed by the two houses of parliament, respecting the exercise of the powers and authorities of the crown, in the name and on the behalf of the King, during the continuance of his Majesty's present indisposition.

On the 23d, it was agreed that the Chancellor of Great Britain should affix the great seal to such bill of limitations as might be necessary, to restrict the power of the future Regent. It was moved as an amendment, that the Prince of Wales be requested to take upon himself the administration of the government during the Royal incapacity: the amendment was negatived by 251 to 178 voices.

On the 10th of January, 1780, this singular bill was brought into the House, and produced some long and violent debates; and in the House of Lords was accompanied by a protest, signed by the Duke of York, at the head of the Princes of the blood, and fifty-five other peers, expressing their highest indignation at the restrictions imposed on the executive authority.

A letter had been written to the Prince of Wales by Mr. Pitt, informing his Highness of the plan meant to be pursued; that the cure of the King's person and the disposition of the Royal Household should be committed to the Queen, who would, by

this means, be vested with the patronage of 400 places, amongst which were the great offices of Lord Steward, Lord Chamberlain, and the Master of the Horse. That the power of the Prince should not extend to the granting any office, reversion, or pension, for any other term than during the King's pleasure, nor to the conferring any peerage. The answer of His Royal Highness was temperate but dignified: "it was with deep regret that he perceived in the propositions of administration, a project for introducing weakness, disorder, and insecurity, into every branch of political business—for separating the court from the state, and depriving government of its natural and accustomed support; a scheme for disconnecting authority to command service, from the power of animating it by reward, and for allotting to him all the invidious duties of the Kingly station, without the means of softening them to the public by any one act of grace, favour, or benignity." However, the Prince declared that the conviction of the evils which might otherwise arise, outweighed in his mind every other consideration, and would determine him to undertake the painful trust imposed upon him by that melancholy necessity, which of all the King's subjects he deplored the most.

On the 31st Lord Waldegrave reported in the House of Lords that he had, with Lord Aylesbury, waited upon her Majesty with their lordship's address (relative to the care of his Majesty's person and the management of his household,) to

which her Majesty had been pleased to return the following most gracious answer :

“ My Lords and Gentlemen,

“ My duty and gratitude to the King, and the sense I must ever entertain of my great obligations to this country, will certainly engage my most earnest attention to the anxious and momentous trust, intended to be reposed in me by parliament. It will be a great consolation to me to receive the aid of a council, of which I shall stand so much in need, in discharge of a duty wherein the happiness of my future life is indeed deeply interested, but which, a higher object, the happiness of a great, loyal, and affectionate people renders still more important.”

The message to the Queen and her Majesty's answer were ordered to be printed.

His Royal Highness the Prince of Wales had attained some popularity at this time. A draft for 1000*l.* had been received in the Chamber of London, enclosed in a letter from his Royal Highness's treasurer, addressed to the Chamberlain, in order to be applied to the relief of the poor who might sustain some hardship and inconvenience during such an inclement season from the delay of his Majesty's annual bounty. The Recorder of London, with the Sheriffs and Town Clerk, attended his Royal Highness at Carlton House with an unanimous vote of thanks from the Common Council of London, for his Royal Highness's bounty.

The bill, which had been passed, was rendered useless by his Majesty's being pronounced free from all complaint on the 26th of February. The cause of his Majesty's disorder was ascribed to his abstemious mode of living while at Cheltenham. It was thought that he drank too copiously of the waters, and did not take sufficient animal nourishment to counteract the strong nature of them. However, when his Majesty was recommended to go to Cheltenham, his physicians deemed the relaxation both seasonable and expedient.

On the 1st of March the King, Queen, and all the Princesses attended divine service in the private chapel at Kew, when a new thanksgiving prayer was read. The King, Queen, and three eldest Princesses waited to receive the Holy Sacrament.

On the 12th there were grand illuminations throughout London, Westminster, the suburbs and adjacent villages. At the Queen's illumination at Kew was a large transparent picture, under which were the following lines, written by her Majesty :

“ Our prayers are heard and Providence restores
A patriot King to bless Britannia's shores ;
But not to Britain is the bliss confin'd,
All Europe hails the friend of human kind.
If such the general joy, what words can show
The change to transport, from the depths of wo,
In those permitted to embrace again
The best of fathers, husbands, and of men !”

In the evening her Majesty and all the Princesses

came from Kew to Earl Bathurst's in Piccadilly, and after taking some refreshment, her Majesty and the three eldest Princesses drove through the streets for two hours, and were highly gratified with the lights and transparencies. Her Majesty and the Princesses did not return to Kew till between one and two in the morning; when the King appeared at the door of the palace to receive them, and after making enquiries about their amusements, opened himself the coach-door, and handed his royal consort from her carriage. His Majesty had dined that day at Windsor.

On his Majesty's recovery congratulatory addresses poured in from all quarters. The City of London took the lead, and his Majesty expressed his willingness to receive their address from the hands of the Lord-Mayor and Sheriffs at Kew, at one o'clock, on the 19th of March. The Lord-Mayor and the two Sheriffs went, in a private manner, in their carriages to Kew, where they presented their addresses to their Majesties separately. The King and Queen received them in the most affable manner. The address to the Queen was as follows :

“ May it please your Majesty to permit us, the Lord-Mayor, Aldermen, and Commons of the City of London, in common-council assembled, to offer our most sincere congratulations to your Majesty on the auspicious recovery of our most gracious sovereign.

“ Impressed with the most sympathising affec-

tions, we have not the power to convey how much we participate in the general felicity of which your Majesty must enjoy so large a share.

“ That the King may long be preserved in his sacred and exalted station, not less revered for his domestic virtues than for the dominion he holds in the hearts of a loyal and happy people, is the sincere prayer of the citizens of London.

“ There never was a period when the citizens of London felt the value of their privilege to address the throne in so eminent a degree as the present, which has enabled them to dwell with such heartfelt emphasis on an event so propitious to their country, so peculiarly interesting and effectually consolatory to the best of Queens.”

Her Majesty returned the following answer :

“ I thank you for this mark of duty to the King and attention to me. I receive your congratulations with a sincere and heartfelt pleasure on the present joyful occasion ; and I can assure you that the City of London will ever have my best wishes for its prosperity and happiness.”

We shall add the address of the Bishop and Clergy of the Diocese of Llandaff :

“ Most gracious Queen,

“ We the bishop, archdeacon, and chapter and clergy of the diocese of Llandaff, entreat your Majesty graciously to accept our congratulations on the King's recovery from his late indisposition. They are tendered to your Majesty with the utmost truth.

“ The comforts of domestic life are natural and sincere : all persons, in all ranks, equally feel the importance of possessing them ; are equally afflicted by their interruption or loss : we firmly believe that every family in the kingdom sympathised with your Majesty in your late distress, and that they all participate in your present felicity.

“ Sensible of the influence of Royal example, we always thought that your Majesty was entitled to the thanks of this kingdom for the proofs you have uniformly given, during a long residence amongst us, of the sincerity of your piety, of the amiableness and purity of your manners, as a queen, as a wife, and as a mother ; but if your Majesty could have claimed our regard on no other account, the tenderness and concern you have shown for a beloved Monarch during the late unhappy situation, would have secured to you the grateful attachment of a loyal people.

“ We observed in the deliberations of Parliament a great diversity of opinion, as to the most constitutional mode of protecting the rights of the Sovereign during the continuance of his indisposition, but we observed none whatever as to the necessity of doing it in the most effectual manner. This circumstance cannot fail of giving solid satisfaction to your Majesty ; for, next to the consolation of believing that, in his recovery, he has been the especial object of God’s mercy, must be that of knowing that, during his illness, he was the peculiar object of his people’s love ; that he reigns over

a free, a great, and an enlightened nation, not more by the laws of the land, than by the wishes of all his subjects."

The first drawing-room at St. James's since the King's indisposition took place on the 26th, and was the most brilliant and numerous ever seen. His Majesty came to town in the morning on horseback, and alighted at Buckingham House, where he saw the Queen and Princesses in their dresses before they went to St. James's, and about two o'clock returned to Kew House in his travelling post-chaise. The Queen's dress was superb beyond all former precedent, and was enriched by a display of diamonds of immense value. She had the words "Long live the King," in diamonds—and the same motto, in gold letters, on a white satin ribband, was on the cap of almost every body. The dresses were almost uniformly white satin with crape draperies, and trains embroidered and fringed.

There were several grand galas on this occasion. The Pantheon gala was remarkably brilliant, and the Lady Mayoress's assembly did equal credit to the city. Her Majesty's gala at Windsor, April the 2d, was truly magnificent: the banquet was the most luxurious of any given at Windsor during the present reign.

At seven o'clock the drawing-room began. Their Majesties were seated under a canopy: the King was in a full dress uniform of blue and gold. The Queen had a most superb bandeau in her head-

dress, with letters in diamonds of "Long live the King." The Princesses had head-dresses nearly the same. The company consisted of all the first nobility in the land, of the King's friends, with their ladies and families. The ladies were all in one uniform, of garter-blue, trimmed with a broad gold fringe, the petticoat of white satin. They wore bandeaus in the head-dresses the same as the Queen's, and most of them had medallions of his Majesty. The gentlemen, with the exception of a few officers, wore the King's uniform.

About eight o'clock the concert began, which consisted of the Queen's private band, assisted by the Duke of York's. Griesbach was the leader of the vocal performers. Storace, Norris, and Sale were the principal singers. In the front of the whole company the Royal Family were seated in a row. On the right of his Majesty was the Queen; on the left the Princess Augusta. The Duke of Gloucester was at one end, and his son and daughter at the other. At the conclusion of the second act his Majesty took some refreshment, and in half an hour the performance was resumed.

The supper commenced at one o'clock, in St. George's Hall, when the King retired. The Queen sat at the bottom of the hall, on the eminence; the Prince of Wales on her right, and the Duke of York on her left: the rest of the Royal Family were at the same table. The supper was most magnificent. A piece of confectionary exhibited the Chatham arms, with W. P. (William

Pitt), and a representation of the keys of the Treasury hanging from them, with 268, the number of members forming the majority before-mentioned, and the arms of the Lord Chancellor, with his motto, in token of his opinion of their integrity. There was no ball, and the company retired about three o'clock in the morning.

The Queen's lodge was illuminated in a most brilliant style.

At the Opera House subscription gala, Mrs. Siddons, habited in the character of Britannia, recited an Ode written by Mr. Merry. Here the supper was also superb and profuse; the ornaments light and graceful. In the ball-room, the coffee-room, and five or six smaller rooms, about seven hundred were able to sit down at once. The dancing began about three o'clock in the morning: there were no minuets nor cotillions. The Duke of York and the Duchess of Rutland led down the first dance. Between six and seven in the morning the tables in the supper-rooms were new decked, and soups, ices, strawberries, jellies, shell-fish, &c. furnished in profusion.

On the 15th, her Majesty, accompanied by the Princess Royal, the Princesses Sophia and Elizabeth, went to Covent Garden Theatre. Her Majesty, on entering her box, was received with loud applause, and she sensibly felt the congratulations. When seated, the ordinary curtain was drawn up, and a splendid drop-cloth displayed, with his Majesty's arms superbly emblazoned, with a scroll

over, containing the words "Long live the King," and another underneath, "May the King live for ever." Two cherubs supported the lower scroll, waving wreaths of laurel over it. The whole painting was decorated with a rich foliage of roses and myrtle surrounding it. The unexpected display of this new drop-cloth added considerably to its effect. The principal singers then came forward to sing "God save the King," in which they were joined by the whole audience, and encored three times. The Queen was so much affected that she shed tears of joy, and the Princesses sympathised in her sensibility.

The 23d having been ordered by proclamation to be a day of general thanksgiving for his Majesty's recovery, the King went to the cathedral church of St. Paul, accompanied by the Queen, the Prince of Wales, the Duke of York, the Princess Royal, the Princesses Augusta and Elizabeth, the Dukes of Gloucester and Cumberland, his Highness Prince William, the members of both Houses of Parliament, the great officers of state, the judges, and other public functionaries.

The procession began at eight o'clock in the morning, by the House of Commons, in their coaches, followed by their Speaker, in his state coach. Next came the masters in chancery, the judges, and after them the peers, in the order of precedence, as they were marshalled by the officers of arms at Westminster, the youngest baron going first, and the Lord Chancellor, in his state coach,

closing this part of the procession. Such of the peers as were knights wore the collars of their respective orders.

Afterwards came the Royal Family, in order of precedence, with their attendants, escorted by parties of the royal regiment of horse guards. Their Majesties set out from the Queen's Palace soon after ten o'clock, in a coach drawn by eight cream-coloured horses, (in which were also two of the ladies of her Majesty's bed-chamber,) followed by their Royal Highnesses the Princesses, and proceeded through the gate at the Stable-yard, along Pall-Mall. The streets were lined, as far as Temple-bar, by the brigade of foot guards, the grenadier companies of which were posted in St. Paul's Church, and in the Church-yard, and patrolled by parties of the royal regiment of horse guards. The avenues into the streets through which the procession passed were guarded by the Queen's light dragoons. From Temple-bar to the church the streets were lined by the artillery company and the militia of the city; the peace-officers attending both within and without the city.

At Temple-bar his Majesty was met by the Lord Mayor in a gown of crimson velvet, by the Sheriffs in their scarlet gowns, and a deputation from the Aldermen and Common Council, (being all on horseback), when the Lord Mayor surrendered the city sword to his Majesty, who having returned it to him, he carried it bare-headed before the King to St. Paul's.

At the west door of St. Paul's his Majesty was met by the peers, the Bishop of London, the Dean of St. Paul (Bishop of Lincoln) the Canons residentiary, and the Kings and other officers of arms, the band of gentlemen pensioners and the yeomen of the guard attending. The sword of state was carried before his Majesty by the Marquis of Stafford into the choir, where the King and Queen placed themselves under a canopy of state, near the west end, opposite to the altar. The peers had their seats in the area as the House of Lords, and the Commons in the stalls. The upper galleries were allotted to the ladies of her Majesty's bed-chamber, the maids of honour, and such other ladies of distinction as attended on this occasion. The foreign Ministers were placed in the two lower galleries, next to the throne, and the Lord Mayor and Aldermen in the lower galleries near the altar. The Prayers and Litany were read and chanted by the minor canons: the *Te Deum* and Anthems composed for the occasion were sung by the choir, who were placed in the organ loft, and were joined in the chorus, as also in the Psalms, by the charity children, in number about six thousand, who were assembled there previous to their Majesties' arrival. The Sermon was preached by the Bishop of London.

After divine service their Majesties returned with the same state to the Queen's Palace at about half an hour after three o'clock.

His Royal Highness Prince William Henry ar-

rived at Windsor from Portsmouth May the 2d, when he was immediately introduced to their Majesties.

The celebration of her Majesty's birth-day (which was not observed at the beginning of the year) took place at Windsor on the 10th, where the King, Queen, and Princesses received the compliments of all the foreign ministers, and a number of the nobility and gentry, at the Queen's Lodge, and the whole of the Royal Family dined together. In the evening there was a grand concert at the Castle, and an elegant supper in St. George's Hall. All the great officers of state, officers of the household, lords and ladies of the bedchamber, &c. were present.

The Queen had another gala at Windsor on the 28th. About one hundred and sixty of the nobility had cards of invitation; among whom were the Prince of Wales, the Duke of York, the Lord Chancellor, Mr. Pitt, &c. At nine o'clock the dances began in the great room, and at twelve the company adjourned to supper in St. George's Hall. At the upper end of the hall, on the throne, their Majesties and the Royal Family sat. Two tables were placed the length of the hall, at each of which sat sixty persons. There was also another at the bottom of the hall. The ornaments of the table were remarkably superb. After supper the company resumed the dance, and did not break up till five in the morning.

The French Ambassador's gala was celebrated

on the 29th, at his house in Portman-square. The Queen, three of the Princesses, Dukes of York, Clarence, Gloucester, and Cumberland were present. Her Majesty was first received in the grand saloon, where a superb chair was placed, near which the Princesses were seated. Temporary rooms were built in the gardens, and one purposely for the Queen to sup in. The Spanish Ambassador was honoured in the minuets with the hand of the Princess Royal. The dances continued till near one o'clock, when the supper rooms were opened, and displayed a scene of luxury and magnificence.

On the 1st of June the Duke of Clarence gave a grand entertainment at Willis's Rooms, which were elegantly decorated for the purpose. The apartment where the Prince of Wales, Dukes of York and Clarence sat, with their select friends, was splendidly ornamented with blue silk and flowers in various combinations.

The next day the Spanish Ambassador gave his gala at Ranelagh. The entrance into the rotunda was formed into a shrubbery; the lower boxes represented a Spanish camp, and the gallery formed a temple of Flora. The Queen's box was of crimson satin, lined with white satin hung in festoons, and richly fringed with gold, at the top of which was a regal crown. The orchestra was a magnificent pavillion of white and gold, lined with a green embroidered satin, in which was a table of eighteen covers for the Royal Family. Opposite the Queen's box was a small stage, on which a

Spanish dance was performed by children, which had a pleasing effect. In another arch of the centre were beautiful moving transparencies, and in a third was a lottery of watches, gold trinkets, medals, &c. consisting of six hundred prizes, the number of ladies invited. The great prize, a gold watch richly ornamented with diamonds, fell to the lot of Miss Eliza Sturt. Her Majesty drew an etwee case, with a beautiful medallion of the King. An Ode, the words by Colonel Arabin, was sung; after which a red curtain drew up, and about thirty girls and boys, in Spanish dresses, entertained the company with Spanish dances. Her Majesty and the Royal Family then retired to the back part of their box, to view the fireworks from the garden. There were about twenty sailing boats on the water, illuminated with lamps, which moved backwards and forwards, letting off sky-rockets. The fireworks were very grand, and well conducted.

The company having again met in the rotunda, the country dances began. As none of the princes of the blood were present to take out their sisters, the four eldest Princesses danced with Prince William of Gloucester, Earl of Salisbury, Earl Gower, and the Earl of Clarendon. At a quarter past one the Queen and Royal Family retired to their supper room. The service was entirely of gold, and the decorations most magnificent: the tablecloth alone was of the value of ninety guineas. Her Majesty was handed to supper by the Spanish

Ambassador : the Princesses, the Duke of Gloucester, and his son and daughter, were seated with the Queen. A full band played " God save the King" during part of the supper time, after which catches and glees were sung.

The Prince of Wales and Duke of York were present, but not of her Majesty's party. As the latter came in boots, his Royal Highness did not mix with the rest of the company.

The dances continued after supper till half past five in the morning. The Queen and Royal Family withdrew at three.

The King's birth-day was kept as usual at St. James's, but his Majesty was not present. The court was uncommonly numerous and splendid.

On the 25th, their Majesties, the Princess Royal, Princesses Augusta and Elizabeth, visited his Royal Highness the Duke of Gloucester's lodge at Lyndhurst. They set out a little after seven o'clock in the morning, and arrived safe at Lyndhurst soon after three. They were attended by Lady Courtoun, two Ladies Waldegrave, Lord Courtoun, and Colonels Goldsworthy and Gwynn, and were followed, about an hour after, by his Royal Highness the Duke of Gloucester, and his suite. At Winchester and Romney the Royal Family were received, as they passed, with acclamations of joy. An immense number of horsemen from the neighbouring towns joined them on the way, and proceeded with them to the end of their journey. At Lamb's Corner, at the extremity of

the New Forest, they were met by the lord warden, deputy lord warden, steward, bailiff, verdurers, regarders, royal and other bowmen, agisters, and various other officers of the forest, in their ancient uniforms, who preceded the royal carriages to Lyndhurst. Upon his Majesty's alighting in the court-yard of the King's House, he was presented, by the Reverend Sir Charles Mill, bart. hereditary bailiff of the forest, with a brace of milk white greyhounds, with gold collars, coupled with a green silk ribbon, agreeable to the ancient custom of the Manor of Coleberry, which obliges him to make such presentment to every crowned head whenever he enters the forest.

The Royal Family dined in a room exposed to public view, and after dinner they threw open the windows, and joined the populace in the chorusses of "God save the King" and "Rule Britannia." They afterwards walked through the village, attended by all their train.

On the 26th their Majesties, with their suite, arrived at Southampton, from Lyndhurst, about eleven o'clock. They were received at the audit-room by the mayor and corporation, where an address was read to their Majesties by the town clerk. The corporation had the honour of kissing hands, and Thomas Mears, Esq. the mayor, was offered the honour of knighthood, but declined it. After partaking of refreshments, fruits, &c. their Majesties went to the quay, and from thence walked round to the platform, when, after expressing

themselves highly pleased with the grandeur of the views, which were enriched by a full tide, they proceeded in their carriages round the beach, and after honouring Colonel Heywood with a call, and taking chocolate, &c. with him, they returned to Lyndhurst.

On the 27th, their Majesties, the Princesses, and suite, visited the town of Lymington, where they were received with every demonstration of joy and loyalty.

On the morning of the 30th the Royal Family, with their whole suite, departed from Lyndhurst for Weymouth. Their Majesties went through Salisbury in the forenoon. A triumphal arch was erected, formed of festoons of flowers, laurel wreaths, &c. under which the royal cavalcade passed. All the companies of the city, dressed characteristically, attended.

The royal arrival at Weymouth, in the afternoon, was announced by the Portland artillery, and by all the ships in Portland-road ; by colours flying, music, singing, and universal acclamations. After dinner the King and Queen walked on the sands for two hours, surrounded by a confluence of people.

The next day the corporation presented a congratulatory address, and had the honour of kissing hands.

His Majesty sometimes rode out in the morning, attended by Lords Courtoun and Chesterfield, and Colonels Gwynn and Goldsworthy, but more fre-

quently he walked quite alone upon the beach. Having been offered constables to attend him in his excursions, he declared that he found himself sufficiently well guarded by his people. The Queen and Princesses often walked out on the sands in the evening. The Royal Family were all present at a haul of fish upon the beach early in July.

On the 5th, between seven and eight o'clock, his Majesty was on the esplanade, where he walked two hours. After breakfast, the King, Queen, and the Princesses, with their attendants, walked to church, where the mayor and corporation, having made the necessary arrangements, conducted them to their pews. The church was very much crowded, but the greatest regularity was preserved. Their Majesties' pew was in the centre aisle, fitted up with green silk curtains. A psalm at the beginning of the service, and an anthem before the sermon, were performed by several of the neighbourhood. After church their Majesties and the Princesses walked till dinner on the beach.

For the purpose of a tour, their Majesties and suite left Weymouth on the 13th of August, and paid a visit to the carpet manufactory at Axminster. The King and Queen refused to be drawn in their coach, but walked upon the platform, and staid to see the whole in full work. An order was given for several pieces, and a liberal sum left for the work-people.

When their Majesties approached Honiton, they

were surprised at the turnpike with the appearance of near four hundred female children, neatly dressed, with white ribbands, &c. headed by the young ladies of the boarding school, in white. The Queen and Princesses were very much affected at this interesting and unexpected sight.

From Honiton the Royal tourists proceeded to Sir G. Yonge's, at Eastcote, where a magnificent dinner was prepared. They staid for coffee; and then proceeded to Exeter; which ancient city they reached at seven in the evening. At the bounds of the liberties the mayor and corporation met them with an excellent band of music; and at the entrance into the city presented the city keys, which were returned with a compliment, "That they were already in very good hands." They were conducted, amidst a great concourse of people, ringing of bells, &c. to the deanery, and after showing themselves at the windows, to satisfy the anxious populace; their Majesties partook of an entertainment at the dean's. In the evening a general illumination took place.

At eleven o'clock on the 15th, the mayor and corporation of Exeter attended with an address, and were graciously received. This was followed by an address from the clergy of the diocese, which met with the same reception. Their Majesties attended divine service at the cathedral the following morning; from thence went to the bishop's palace; and afterwards appeared on the town walks, by

which they gratified, in a high degree, some hundreds of spectators.

About nine in the morning of the 17th, their Majesties, and the Royal family and suite, went from Saltram, through Plymouth, to view the dock-yard. Their Majesties alighted at Commissioner Laforey's, where they took some refreshment, and then proceeded in their barges on board Admiral Bickerton's ship, the *Impregnable*, of ninety guns. As they ascended the quarter-deck a royal salute was fired, as well from her as from every other ship in the harbour and in the Sound. The King remained on board near an hour, perfectly pleased with the high order of the ship, and his handsome reception by the admiral. The Royal Family then visited the ships in the dock, particularly the *Gibraltar*, which had been fitted up for their accommodation. This fine two-decked ship, which had been taken by Lord Rodney in the presence of the Duke of Clarence, excited much astonishment. They next visited all the store-houses in the yard, and every thing worthy attention, which took them up till near three o'clock. An exceedingly handsome cutter was rowed by six young women, all habited in loose white gowns, with nankeen safeguards, and black bonnets, each wearing a sash across her shoulders of royal purple, with "Long live their Majesties," in gold. They kept with their Majesties' barge till it returned to the shore.

The King and attendants went from Saltram on board the Southampton at nine, and were saluted by the forts and shipping, and at half past nine weighed anchor, and stood for the fleet, then off Statten Heights. The Magnificent, of 74 guns, followed, and soon after the Lowestoffe frigate. Upon approaching in full view, and the two commanders observing the royal standard, a general salute took place. His Majesty was entertained by a fight, which continued upwards of three hours, when the English were triumphant. After the Royal review, all the fleet saluted their Sovereign again. The King returned at five to Saltram, to dinner. During his return by water a sloop over-set, and ten or twelve persons perished. His Majesty was much affected when he heard of the accident, and sent to enquire if any persons were rendered widows or orphans, as he would provide for all such.

On the 21st, the King, Queen, and Princesses dined at Mount Edgecumbe, and their reception was in the highest style of elegance and magnificence. Sixteen young females, dressed in white, strewed the path with roses, myrtles, carnations, and jessamines, and each of them, before the King ascended the steps, presented an elegant bouquet, which was most graciously received. The noble Viscount, after his Royal visitants had taken refreshments, conducted them through the enchanting walks to Maker's Heights, where an astonishing view at once burst upon the sight. The King,

Queen, and Princesses beheld it with raptures. The dinner was all that sumptuousness and elegance united could produce. At the first table were the King and Royal Family, attended by the noble viscount, the viscountess, (lately Miss Hobart), and his son. At the second table were the Duke of Richmond, Earl Chatham, Lord George Lenox, and a few of the viscount's particular friends. The Royal Family staid for coffee, and at six left Mount Edgumbe, quite delighted with their day's entertainment. At night the house was most brilliantly illuminated.

On the 27th, the Royal Family left Saltram, on their return to Weymouth, after a stay of twelve days, during which time they viewed every thing which was worthy of observation. Previous to their departure his Majesty ordered the following sums to be distributed :—

To the artificers, workmen, and labourers of the dock-yard, victualling office, and gun wharf	£1500
To the poor of Plymouth, Shoreham, and Dock	250
To the crews of his Majesty's barge, and of the several barges which attended on him during his stay	200

The King, Queen, and Princesses arrived at Exeter at three o'clock in the afternoon, where they passed the night. They set out from thence at eight o'clock the next morning, and returned to Weymouth at four in the afternoon.

The Royal Family visited Milton Abbey, September the 7th, and were received at the entrance by Lord Milton and Miss Damer. Green baize was spread from the carriage to the house, strewed with flowers. After taking some refreshment, the Queen, the Princess Royal, Lady Courtoun, and Miss Damer, got into an open carriage, drawn by six grey ponies, mounting three postillions. The Princesses Augusta and Elizabeth, with the Ladies Waldegrave, accompanied them in the same kind of vehicle. The King, Lord Milton, and attendants, rode on horseback. They went round the grounds, and viewed the surrounding country. The company returned about four o'clock to dinner, which was sumptuous and elegant, and worthy of the Royal guests. Their Majesties and suite left the lodge about half past six, and arrived at Gloucester Lodge at nine, well pleased with their visit, the hospitality and loyalty of their reception, and the beauty and elegance of the mansion, and surrounding country.

The King, Queen, and three Princesses, attended by Lord Courtoun, Lady Waldegrave, Colonel Goldsworthy, &c. left Weymouth on the 14th, for the purpose of visiting the Marquis of Bath, at Longleat. The Royal Family breakfasted at Lord Digby's, and changed horses at the Antelope, at Sherborne; alighted at Sir Richard Hoare's, at Stourton; and walked a short time on the terrace, to view the beauties of that delightful seat. They arrived at Longleat about half past five in the

afternoon, to dinner, and thousands of people, of all descriptions, having assembled in the park to have a sight of their Majesties, testified their joy with loud acclamations, uniting all in the chorus of "God save the King." Mr. Phillot, of the Bear Inn, Bath, assisted in the preparation for their Majesties' entertainment. A general illumination at Warminster took place that evening, when the principal Inn, (the Marquis's Arms), and the Angel Inn, made a brilliant appearance. The next day their Majesties appeared on the terrace, and also rode round the park in an open chaise, in order to indulge the curiosity of the people. Numbers of well-dressed persons were also admitted to the Royal presence, in the apartments of the marquis's noble mansion.

At eleven o'clock in the morning of the 16th, their Majesties, the Princess Royal, Princesses Augusta and Elizabeth, left Longleat, and arrived at Tottenham Park, in Wilts, (the seat of Lord Aylesbury), at four in the afternoon, where they staid two days, and returned to Windsor on the 18th, after an absence of twelve weeks. The King, as soon as he got out of his carriage, received the dutiful affections of the three youngest Princesses. Their arrival was announced by the ringing of bells, and at night both Windsor and Eton were illuminated.

During the absence of their Majesties his Royal Highness the Duke of York had been attacked with a violent indisposition, which ter-

minated in the measles. The Prince of Wales had also encountered an alarming accident in coming to town from Wentworth House (York.) About two miles on the other side of Newark, a cart crossing the road struck the axle of the Prince's coach, and overturned it. It was on the verge of a slope, and the carriage fell a considerable way, turned over twice, and was shivered to pieces. There were in the coach with his Royal Highness, Lord Clermont, Colonel St. Leger, and Colonel Lake. Two of the Prince's servants were on the box. The Prince suffered only a slight contusion in the shoulder, and his wrist was sprained. His Royal Highness was undermost in the first fall, and by the next roll of the carriage was brought uppermost, when, with great presence of mind, he disengaged himself, and was the first to rescue his fellow-travellers. Lord Clermont was the most hurt: he was so much wounded in the face, and severely bruised that he was obliged to remain at Newark. The other gentlemen sustained no great injury. The accident happened at ten o'clock at night, but it was a clear moon-light. It was his Royal Highness's own travelling coach, with hired horses and postillions, and the mischance was occasioned by the carelessness of the postillions, who drove, to clear the cart, with too much precipitation. Colonel Lake's post-chaise being close behind, the Prince and Lord Clermont went forward in it to Newark, where his Royal Highness slept, and proceeded to London the next morning.

The King held the first levee since his indisposition on the 23d. His Majesty was received at the garden gate, St. James's, by Lord Barton, and conducted to his closet, where he was waited on by his Royal Highness the Duke of Clarence.

Their Majesties went to Covent Garden Theatre on the 18th of November, and the presence of the King, (for the first time since his illness) with the Queen, and the three eldest Princesses, caused an overflow in every part of the house. All the avenues to the theatre were crowded early in the afternoon. The comedy of the "Dramatist" was performed; and Miss Brunton at the conclusion of the play, delivered the following apposite lines in character:

"Ah Floriville! if you would behold pure unsullied
love, never travel out of this country. Depend on't
No foreign climes such high examples prove
Of wedded pleasure—of connubial love;
Long in this isle domestic joys have grown,
Nurs'd in the cottage—cherish'd on the Throne!"

On the 16th of December their Majesties and the Princesses went to Old Drury Theatre. At their entrance a superb scene was displayed, with appropriate decorations, and several vocal performers sung, as usual, "God save the King" which was chorussed, and repeatedly encored, by the audience. Though the company at this theatre were properly styled "his Majesty's servants," yet, as the chief proprietor, R. B. Sheridan, Esq. was generally an opponent to his Majesty's mini-

sters, it never had so many royal visits, publicly, as the rival theatre.

After the death of Mr. Lightfoot, who was for some years a Fellow of the Royal Society, and one of the original Fellows of the Linnæan Society, and who in the course of his botanical studies had collected an excellent British herbarium, and had also amassed from Sir Joseph Banks and other friends a number of exotic plants, his Majesty purchased the whole for 100 guineas as a present to the Queen, the price having been fixed by an intelligent friend of the deceased. These were deposited at the Queen's lodge, Windsor; and the specimens, which had been generally gathered wild, were, after a while, discovered to be much infested with insects. The Queen having a genuine and ardent taste for the study of botany, requested the advice and assistance of a gentleman well versed in the subject, and who, being consequently a constant visitor at the Queen's, gave a regular course of conversations rather than lectures, on botany and zoology, which her Majesty and the Princesses Augusta and Elizabeth honoured with their diligent attention; the Queen regularly taking notes of every lecture, which she read over aloud at its conclusion, to prevent any mistake. The plan of this excellent mother, on which she had often been heard to descant, was, in the education of her royal offspring, to open as many resources to them as possible, in a variety of studies and pursuits; out of which they might subsequently make their

own choice, and thus be independent of circumstances for occupation and amusement. This herbarium was not consigned to useless repose: it was allowed to be consulted frequently, on the subject of Scottish willows, and other useful matters, and the Bishop of Carlisle was permitted to make all requisite use of it for the completion of his valuable paper on British *Carices*, printed in the second volume of the Linnæan Society's Transactions.

During his Majesty's indisposition a gold ewer and bason, enriched with gems and exquisite workmanship, were missing. The King, after his recovery, was greatly disconcerted, and suspected them to have been stolen by a favourite domestic. Some months having elapsed these precious articles were accidentally discovered concealed behind a quantity of books in the King's own study. His Majesty had totally forgotten (as he confessed to his Royal consort) having placed them there. As the King, during health, was always remarkable for a retentive memory, this sufficiently proves the delirious malady under which his Majesty then laboured.

The King frequently took solitary walks about Windsor and its vicinity. Having once entered a long lane opposite the fields which serve as a short cut to Eton Bridge, his Majesty saw some people in a yard, and entered it to enquire what place it was. It had been previously a stable-yard, but the stable was now converted into a theatre! The manager was soon apprised of the

King's approach, and naturally expecting a royal command, and a consequent overflow, made his *first appearance* before the King, when he delivered his *occasional address*—"Please your Majesty this is the Theatre Royal, Windsor!" "Theatre!" exclaimed the King—"a barn—barn—barn," and walking hastily out, abruptly left the poor manager (Berkley Baker) "bound in with saucy fears and doubts." This incident occasioned some applications for a patent for a theatre; which was afterwards granted on condition that the performances should take place only during the vacations at Eton College.

His Majesty, soon after his recovery, sent his annual donation of 1000*l.* for the poor of the City to the Chamberlain's office; a circumstance which was not generally known at this time.

About the close of the year his Majesty experienced a narrow escape from being overturned in his carriage in Colnbrook river, which separates Iver and Uxbridge Moor: when returning from hunting, the two leaders fell into a hole, but were immediately extricated by the agility of the postillion.

There was no court either at Windsor or St. James's, as usual, on New Year's day, 1790, consequently the Laureat's Ode was omitted. The non-performance of the customary ode occasioned much surprise; but it was certainly owing to the indisposition of the Rev. T. Warton.

The Queen's birth-day was kept according to

precedent, on the 18th, and the court was uncommonly splendid.

As his Majesty was going in state to the House of Peers on the 21st, on passing the corner opposite Carlton House, St. James's Park, a stone was thrown at the royal coach, by a tall man dressed in a scarlet coat, black breeches, and a cocked hat, with an orange coloured cockade. He was immediately apprehended and taken to Mr. Grenville's office in the Treasury, where he underwent an examination by the Attorney-General and Sir Sampson Wright, before Mr. Pitt, Mr. Grenville, the Duke of Leeds, Earl of Chatham, &c. which lasted four hours, when he was committed to prison for further examination. It appeared that about a fortnight before, he had written a libel against his Majesty, and stuck it on the whalebone in the Court-yard, St. James's, which he had signed "John Frith, lieutenant of the 2d battalion of Royals." After several examinations he was committed to Newgate for trial, on a charge of high treason; a bill of indictment was found by the Grand Jury, but as it was proved by the affidavits of a physician and a surgeon that he was insane, after a confinement of some months he was liberated, on bail being given for the security of his person.

Their Majesties and the Princesses had removed from Windsor to reside during the winter at the Queen's Palace. His Royal Highness Prince Edward arrived suddenly at Nerot's hotel, in King-

Street, St. James's. As soon as the Prince of Wales was apprized of his arrival, he went to the hotel, and returned with his brother to Carlton House: they afterwards paid a visit to their Royal brother at York House. The arrival of the Prince in England was totally unexpected; and as permission was not given for this visit, his Royal Highness was immediately ordered to join his regiment at Gibraltar, for which place he set out on the 29th, and having arrived at Portsmouth, February the 2d, embarked at Spithead, on board the Southampton frigate.

Early this year Lord Barrymore gave a masked ball and supper at Wargrave, which was attended by the Prince of Wales, who wore a black domino. A few days after his Royal Highness gave a most splendid ball to about two hundred of the nobility of both sexes at Carlton House. This fete was rather a private entertainment than a grand gala, given principally in honour of the Princess Gallitzin, who had expressed a strong desire to see the English country dances. Sideboards, abounding with every delicacy of the season, supplied the ceremony of regular suppers. The appendages were a faro-table, &c. Captain Payne won about one thousand guineas; another about two thousand, &c. Most of the distinguished foreigners were present.

Another maniac, Edward Derick, went to St. James's in the evening of the 10th, and desired the marshalmen to introduce him to his Majesty:

he was of course informed that his request could not be complied with. He then said he had letters of the utmost importance for the Queen, and *must* be admitted. His behaviour was so riotous that he was taken into custody, and committed to Tothill-fields Bridewell. He was about twenty-four years of age, and of mean appearance.

It is remarkable that her Majesty's birth-day was observed this year at Dublin Castle on the *fourth* of March. The ladies' dresses were superb and elegant, all of Irish manufacture. Her Excellency the Lady Lieutenant had a poplin, white ground, with gold spots and stripes; the trimming, crimson silk, with tassels mixed with gold, the edges ornamented with gold spangled fringe. This was wisely intended by the Earl of Westmoreland (who had been at this time lord lieutenant of Ireland about four months) to encourage the poor of that country.

His Majesty's birth-day was kept at St. James's, as usual. The Ode on this occasion had been written by the Reverend T. Warton, who died at Oxford the preceding month, (May 21), and was intended for the new year, immediately subsequent to his Majesty's excursion to Cheltenham; but as there was no court then, the intended Ode was laid by, and used on the present occasion, with a few alterations in the last stanza. Henry James Pye, Esq. succeeded as poet laureat.

His Royal Highness Henry Frederick, Duke of Cumberland, his Majesty's brother, died at Cum-

berland House, Pall-Mall, after a long illness, about five o'clock in the morning of September the 18th. After having lain in the usual state in the Jerusalem chamber, the remains were interred with Royal pomp in Westminster Abbey on the 28th. The theatres were closed about a fortnight.

A chapter of the most noble order of the Garter was held after the levee on the 14th of December, at which were present the King, Prince of Wales, Dukes of York and Gloucester, and Marquis of Stafford, when his Serene Highness the Duke of Saxe-Gotha, his Grace the Duke of Leeds, and the Earl of Chatham, were chosen to fill up the vacant stalls. The Duke of Leeds and Earl of Chatham were severally introduced, and, after being knighted, were invested with the blue ribband, with the usual ceremonies.

His Royal Highness William Henry, Duke of Clarence, was promoted to the rank of rear-admiral of the blue.

The Poet Laureat, Mr. Pye, provided an Ode for the new year, 1791, and the day was accordingly kept.

In honour of the Queen's birth-day, there was a most brilliant drawing-room at St. James's, January the 18th. A journal of the day observed—
 " All party distinction ceased, and an union of sentiment seemed to prevail in paying respect to a Sovereign whose conduct has endeared her to every subject, and whose amiable disposition, conjugal affection, and maternal tenderness, stand as

models of perfection in the eyes of surrounding empires." It must be confessed that at this time her Majesty was at the height of her popularity.

The Duke of Clarence gave a very splendid dinner on this occasion to the Prince of Wales, and several of his particular friends. The decorations of the table were very handsome, and appropriate to his Royal Highness's profession. A stand of emblematical devices adorned it lengthways; at one end was represented a sailor sitting on a cask, and at the other the head of a man of war, with an officer holding a flag, on which was written—**THE CHARLOTTE.**

The Duke of Leeds also gave a grand dinner to all the foreign ministers, and his Grace's table was decorated with a profusion of ornaments. At the top of a temple, dedicated to Friendship, was a medallion of the Queen, with a crown and a cap of Liberty—the inscriptions were—"May this day be happy" and "Long live the Queen."

At the instance of the Prince of Wales, Mr. Walter, the proprietor of a newspaper, who had been prosecuted by the Duke of York for a libel, and having been found guilty, was sentenced to two years imprisonment, with fines and securities, received his Majesty's pardon, and was liberated, March the 9th, after a confinement in Newgate of near sixteen months.

The Princess Mary and Prince William of Gloucester appeared at court for the first time on the celebration of his Majesty's birth-day. At the

ball minuets were danced by the Prince of Wales with the Princess Royal and Princess Augusta; the Duke of Clarence with his two next sisters, Princesses Elizabeth and Mary; and Prince William of Gloucester with his sister Princess Sophia and Lady C. Spencer. There were only two country dances. The Princesses Sophia and Amelia sat in state at the Queen's apartments to receive the compliments of the nobility, gentry, &c.

His Royal Highness Prince Edward left Gibraltar for America, August the 8th; his retinue when he sailed was more *domestic* than *princely*; a French female, his own man, and a Swiss valet, composed his whole suite.

There was a grand gala at Windsor on the birthday of the Prince of Wales, a ball and supper having been given by the Queen. More than 300 persons of the first rank were present. The ball commenced as soon as their Majesties were seated and continued till twelve o'clock, when the Royal Family and the company adjourned to St. George's Hall, to partake of an elegant entertainment. The Royal Family supped at a throne erected at the upper end of the hall, and the company at two tables 60 feet long, which were decorated in a beautiful manner. In the middle of one was a pedestal with a column, round which were entwined roses and branches of flowers. At the top was a flag, and under it was figured a resplendent glory, encircled with the order of the Garter, and the portrait of the Prince of Wales in the middle, with

his Royal Highness's crest and feathers. On the angles of the pedestal were musical figures, and the whole was turned round by clock-work.

His Royal Highness the Duke of York was this year married to the eldest daughter of the King of Prussia. The marriage ceremony was celebrated at Berlin, September the 29th, with the greatest magnificence. Their Royal Highnesses left Berlin, October the 17th, and on the 19th of Nov. arrived at York House. They were met by the Prince of Wales, who had been waiting for them about twenty minutes: his Royal Highness received the Duchess in the great hall, and taking her by the hand saluted his royal sister, and congratulated her on her arrival in the German language, which the Prince spoke with great fluency, The Duchess was somewhat indisposed, and after seeing the Prince of Wales and the Duke of Clarence, by the advice of Dr. Warren, retired to rest. The Duke of Clarence carried the agreeable intelligence to their Majesties at Buckingham House, and at nine o'clock the Duke of York was presented to their Majesties.

The following day the Duchess was invited to dinner by the Queen and the Prince of Wales, who visited York House for the purpose, handed her to his carriage, the Dukes of York and Clarence following. Upon the arrival of the royal party at Buckingham House, the Duchess of York was conducted by the Prince of Wales on her right hand, and the Duke on her left, into the grand

drawing-room, where were the King, Queen, and six Princesses. The Royal party immediately rose, and the Duchess advancing a few steps into the room, dropped upon her knees. The King and Queen affectionately raised her up surrounded by the Princesses. At five the whole party dined together.

The following evening, Nov. 22, their Majesties, accompanied by the Princess Royal and Princess Augusta in one coach, and the Princesses Elizabeth, Mary, Sophia, and Amelia, attended by Lady Charlotte Finch in another, paid a visit to York House, where they were received by their Royal Highnesses the Duke and Duchess of York, Prince of Wales and Duke of Clarence, attended by the Duke of York's household officers. After reciprocal salutations in the great hall, the Royal party were led to the lower apartment fronting the Park, where tea, coffee, and other refreshments were prepared. At a quarter after ten their Majesties and the Princesses returned to the Queen's House.

The ceremony of the re-marriage, according to the Royal Marriage Act, 12 Geo. III. took place Nov. the 23d, at the Queen's House. At seven o'clock in the evening the Archbishop of Canterbury, the Lord Chancellor, and the Bishop of London, came to the Queen's House. At half past eight o'clock the Prince of Wales, the Duke and Duchess of York, and the Duke of Clarence, were conducted to her Majesty's drawing-room. At half past nine the ceremony was performed by the

Archbishop of Canterbury, assisted by the Bishop of London, his Majesty standing at one end of the altar, and her Majesty at the other extremity : the Duke and Duchess of York in the centre ; the Archbishop opposite to them, and the Lord Chancellor standing behind him : the Prince of Wales next to the Duchess of York, and the Duke of Clarence next to the royal bridegroom.

On the 24th of November her Majesty held an extra drawing-room at St. James's, for the purpose of publicly receiving the Duchess of York. At three o'clock her Royal Highness went to St. James's in her state coach, accompanied by the Duke of York, and attended by Lady Ann Fitzroy : the coach was escorted by a party of life-guards. Upon her Royal Highness's arrival she went first to her Majesty's apartments, who was ready to receive her. After paying her respects to the Queen, her Royal Highness returned through the grand chamber, and went into the drawing-room, where she affectionately addressed his Majesty, and then satisfied the curiosity of the company present by gracefully exhibiting her person for about half an hour. Her Royal Highness's dress was exceedingly becoming : it was chiefly composed of white tissue, spotted very richly with silver, and trimmed with broad silver fringes. The Duchess had in a bandeau of brilliants three diamond pins set to resemble stars, which were presented to her Royal Highness by the King : she also wore diamond ear-rings, which his Majesty

gave her, and a necklace, which was a present from the Queen. The whole of the Royal family, except the Royal bride and bridegroom, wore elegant silver favours. Princess Sophia appeared on this occasion, for the first time, in the drawing-room.

Some doubts having been entertained with respect to the precise rank of the Duchess of York, whether it was to take place after the Princess Royal or the Princesses of England, the question was submitted to the Herald's Office, and it was decided that rank-dates from birth and not from marriage, and that the Princesses of England all take precedence of the Princess of Prussia.

Their Majesties, the Prince of Wales, the Princess Royal, the Duke and Duchess of York, the Duke of Clarence, and the Princesses Elizabeth and Augusta, went to Covent Garden Theatre, December the 28th, to see the comic opera of the "Duenna," and the pantomime of "Blue Beard." The Prince of Wales, the Duke of Clarence, and Duke and Duchess of York, entered the theatre first, and took their seats in the Prince of Wales's box, under an elegant blue satin canopy, richly embroidered with silver, and lined with white silk: after them came in the King and Queen, followed by the Princess Royal and her two sisters. Prince William of Gloucester sat in the next box to that destined for the Prince of Wales and his illustrious company. The King was dressed in a dark coloured suit. The Queen in a rich gold

brocade, the ground scarlet, and a profusion of diamonds. The Duchess of York was most superbly habited in a gold tissue train vest and sleeves, with a brilliant bouquet and stomacher of diamonds : as soon as the Royal Family were seated " God save the King," was sung by the principal vocal performers ; and when the pantomime was over it was sung twice amidst incessant plaudits.

It should be observed that the King of Prussia gave his daughter (the Duchess of York) 100,000 crowns, to revert, in case of her death without issue, to the King : his Royal Highness settled on the Princess 4000*l.* a year, and the interest of 6000*l.* for pin-money ; and his Britannic Majesty granted a counter-portion of 100,000 crowns to her Royal Highness, and engaged to secure to her in case of the unhappy event of a separation 8000*l.* a-year for her jointure, with a residence and suitable establishment.

The Royal party went to the Opera House, Haymarket, January the 4th, 1792, to witness the fourth representation of " Cymon." Some serious accidents were occasioned by the impetuosity of an excessive crowd. A person of the name of Smith was trodden to death, and others severely bruised.

The drawing-room on the celebration of the Queen's birth-day this year was very splendidly attended. The Queen spoke to almost every person known to her Majesty. As this was the first appearance of the Duchess of York at court on a

birth-day her, Royal Highness was most magnificently dressed, and her jewellery supposed to be the finest collection in Europe. When her Royal Highness had set out from York House, she was saluted by marrow-bones and cleavers : it was with difficulty her attendants could convince her Highness that such noise was intended as a compliment ; but when explained she courteously bowed to the crowd, whose acclamations rent the air.

At the ball, while the Prince of Wales was talking to the King, he felt a pull at his sword, and on looking round perceived the diamond guard of his sword was broken off, and suspended only by a small piece of wire, which, from its elasticity, did not break. The diamonds thus attempted to be stolen were worth 3000*l.*, and the person who was supposed to have made this impudent essay, had the appearance of a man of fashion.

Earl Fauconberg, whose elegant lodge their Majesties had visited, was now appointed Master of the Horse to the Queen : the Earl of Aylesbury, Treasurer of her Majesty's Household, and the Earl of Morton, Chamberlain.

The Queen's dress, on the King's birth-day this year, was estimated at not less than 100,000*l.* and great taste was displayed in the arrangement of the whole.

At four o'clock in the morning of August the 8th, their Majesties, with all the Princesses, left Windsor to see the review at Bagshot : as soon as they reached their tent they were joined by the

Prince of Wales, Dukes of York and Gloucester, Prince William and Princess Sophia of Gloucester. At nine the manœuvres began : they were various, and the contest of the two parties was as great as in real action. The numbers who attended were incredible. The sutlers reaped a plentiful harvest ; for a single mutton-chop, a cucumber, and a pint of bad wine, they very modestly charged eighteen shillings ! and for tea or coffee, with two thin slices of bread and butter five shillings !

The Royal Family soon after went to Weymouth ; and in the beginning of September they rode out to Dorchester and surveyed the new county gaol. Here a farmer, Mr. Pitfield, who had been confined seven years for a debt incurred by a lawyers' bill (220*l.*) on his knees presented a petition, stating the particulars to his Majesty. The King was graciously pleased to pay the money, and the man was immediately liberated.

The Prince of Wales's creditors not having been yet satisfied, his Royal Highness resolved on a retrenchment of his expences. On the 29th of November it was announced in form to the pages and servants, who were ordered to attend at one o'clock. They were informed by Colonel Hulse that a retrenchment in the expences of his Royal Highness's household being a measure decided upon, it was necessary, though a painful office, to inform them that their services would be dispensed with after the expiration of the present quarter—that all arrears would be paid up to the

day of discharge, and a small pension allowed as a compensation for the loss of employment. The Colonel added, that he had his Royal Highness's commands to assure them of his reluctance to dismiss them, which could only be exceeded by the pleasure he should feel to reinstate them, whenever he should be justified in resuming the splendour of his situation.

Her Majesty gave a ball and supper at Windsor on the 10th of January, 1793, in a very superb and magnificent style. The country-dances were all to Highland tunes, and their Majesties were gratified with a set of Scotch reels, which entirely dissipated that heavy dulness to which the stately ball-room had hitherto been subject.

The grand Gala at court, on the celebration of the Queen's birth-day, this year, was remarkably brilliant. All the Royal Family in the kingdom (except the Prince of Wales and Princess Amelia,) were present at the drawing-room, with an immense crowd of nobility, foreign ministers, &c. The ball at night was opened by the Duke of York, and the minuets were succeeded by two Scotch dances.

A Treasury board was held at Carlton House at one o'clock on the 21st, when the reduction of the Prince of Wales's establishment took place; and which was probably the reason of his Royal Highness's not being at court on the Queen's birth-day. The domestics discharged were paid their arrears up to the preceding quarter, and established on a

pension of half their salary during their dismissal. His Royal Highness was soon after made Colonel in the army (his commission bearing date Nov. 29, 1792) and Colonel Commandant of the 10th or Prince of Wales's own regiment of Light Dragoons.

As military operations were now deemed indispensable, in consequence of the overthrow of monarchy in France, the King, attended by the Prince of Wales, the Duke of York, and several general and other officers, came down the Mall from Buckingham House to witness the departure of three battalions of guards, destined for foreign service, who were drawn up on the Parade before the Horse-guards. His Majesty was mounted on a beautiful white charger, and wore a general's uniform. After his Majesty had been about half an hour on the parade, the battalions passed him by companies, moving to slow time, the officers saluting as they passed. They then went off by Storey's Gate, and took the road to Greenwich. The march was honoured with the presence of the Queen and the three eldest Princesses. The Duke of Clarence also came in a coach and six. His Majesty, with his suite, fell in with the rear of the battalions, and accompanied them to Greenwich, the place of their embarkation.

His Royal Highness the Duke of York was promoted to the rank of General in the army, and took an active part in the military operations.

The Prince of Wales appeared in public on his

Majesty's birth-day. The King, Queen, the four elder Princesses, the Prince of Wales, and the Duke of Clarence, entered the ball-room about nine o'clock, which was at that hour very much crowded.

On the 13th of September, at night, his Royal Highness Prince Adolphus arrived incog. at the Hanoverian Office, Bury Street, from the British camp before Dunkirk. His Royal Highness slept at Mr. Best's, in Thatchet Court, and next morning set off to see his Royal Parents at Kew Palace. He came up with his helmet, on through which he was cut ; one of his eyes was hurt by a blow which he received in the engagement : his coat also bore the marks of a sabre. Her Majesty's maternal feelings were now put to a severe test ; and indeed the Princesses were equally alarmed for the safety of their royal brothers. The King and Queen partook of very little pleasure at this time. The Duchess of York, during the absence of the Duke, passed many tedious hours of anxiety.

Another circumstance tended to perplex the mind of his Majesty at this juncture. His Royal Highness Prince Augustus, while at Rome, met with the two daughters of the governor of the Bahama islands, who had accompanied their mother, Lady Dunmore, to Italy, where they resided for a short time. His Royal Highness courted this agreeable society, and the consequence was that a mutual attachment took place between the Prince and Lady Augusta Murray, and they were mar-

ried. Lady Murray became pregnant and returned to England. His Royal Highness did the same, and at the instance of the lady and her friends a second marriage took place. The parties were regularly asked in the church of St. George, Hanover Square, in the months of November and December : they were again united according to the ceremonies of the church of England, under the names of Augustus Frederick and Augusta Murray. As soon as the circumstances came to his Majesty's knowledge, the King instituted a suit of nullity in his own name, in the Arches' Court of Canterbury, to set aside the validity of this marriage, on the ground of an act of parliament passed early in the present reign, and which has been already noticed.

Early in February, 1794 Mr. Heseltine the King's proctor, served a citation on Lady Murray, to answer the charges of the suit. The Privy Council were occupied two days in the investigation of the circumstances attending this marriage, and the persons examined were—Lady Dunmore, Lady E. Murray, a coal-merchant and his wife, who lived in South Moulton Street, where the lodgings were taken to complete the residence of one month in the parish of St. George, Hanover Square, the clergyman who married the parties, and a gentleman of Twickenham. Lady A. Murray was brought to bed of a son on the 13th of February.

This case was finally determined in the Arches.

Court, Doctors' Commons, in the course of about four months, and the following judgment delivered by Sir William Wynne,—that the marriage of Prince Augustus Frederick, and Lady Augusta Murray, in the parish church of St. George, Hanover Square, was utterly null and void; also that a former marriage, pretended to be had at Rome, was, by the law of this country, invalid and illegal.

At eight o'clock at night, on the 7th, the Duke of York arrived at Whitehall from the Continent. His Royal Highness came in the *Vestal* frigate, which conveyed the Prince Adolphus to Ostend, and landed at Ramsgate, after a short passage of 14 hours. His Royal Highness was accompanied by Colonel Hewgill of the Guards, and Captain Crawford, his Royal Highness's aides-du-camp. The Duke of York immediately set off for Oatlands, where his Duchess was.

A fire broke out in a room adjoining the laundry at Oatlands, which burnt with great fury for nearly an hour and a half, when it communicated to the grand armory, where arms to the amount of near 2000*l.* were totally destroyed, and but for the activity of the neighbouring inhabitants the whole had been levelled with the ground. The damage was estimated at about 3000*l.* The Duchess of York was at Oatlands at the time, and beheld the dreadful conflagration from her sleeping apartment, situated in the centre of the mansion, and to which the flames were prevented from com-

communicating by instantly hewing down a gate-way, over which the wing joined to the house. His Majesty visited her Royal Highness soon after, and gave the necessary orders for clearing the ruins, and rebuilding the wing which had been destroyed.

As soon as the account arrived of Lord Howe's great naval victory, his Royal Highness the Duke of Clarence immediately went to Covent Garden Theatre, where he privately communicated the joyful intelligence to the manager, in order to be announced to the house, which was done by Mr. Incedon. The music played "God save the King," and "Rule Britannia," which were loudly encored.

Though the tranquillity of many places in England were disturbed by the divisions which now took place between the parties styled *Aristocrats* and *Democrats*, yet the theatres in London, as well as the court at St. James's on the birth-days, evinced as much loyalty as usual.

The Royal Family went to Portsmouth on the 26th of June, to visit the fleet. His Majesty was received by the governor and Lord Howe, and conducted to the Dock-yard, from whence he proceeded to Spithead with the Royal Family. Lord Howe's flag was shifted to a frigate, and the Royal standard hoisted on board the Queen Charlotte, where the Royal Family remained till six o'clock. The Lords of the Admiralty hoisted their flags on board the Queen, Admiral Gardner's flag being

removed on the occasion. The whole garrison was under arms, and the concourse of people was immense. The King carried, with his own hand, a valuable diamond-hilted sword from the commissioner's house to the boat; and presented it to Earl Howe, on board the Queen Charlotte, as a mark of his satisfaction and entire approbation of his conduct. His Majesty also presented a gold chain to Admiral Sir Alexander Hood and Rear-Admiral Gardner; the like honour was conferred on Lord Howe's first captain, Sir Roger Curtis. The wounded admirals, Bowyer and Pasley, who could not consequently attend, were distinguished with similar marks of his Majesty's favour. The Royal Family in the evening, on their return from Spithead, rowed up the harbour to view the six French prizes which were at moorings there.

The next day his Majesty gave audience to the officers of Lord Howe, and afterwards indiscriminately to all other naval and military officers; some marks of distinction were conferred. On the levee being ended, the Royal Family returned to the Commissioner's house in the dock-yard to dinner, and in the evening proceeded up the river to take another view of the French prizes. The town was brilliantly illuminated in the evening.

On the 28th the Royal Family attended the launching of the Prince of Wales, a fine second rate, of 98 guns. Four flags were flying on board her during this ceremony, the Royal Standard, the Admiralty flag, Sir Peter Parker's white flag

as Port Admiral, and the Union flag. The bands of music continued playing in the yard, and on board the ships and yachts up the harbour in honour of the Royal visitants.

Immediately on the Prince of Wales being brought up to her moorings, their Majesties, Prince Ernest, and the Princesses embarked, in order to go on board the Aquilon frigate, Capt. Stopford, at Spithead. As the barges approached the ships at Spithead, two guns from the Queen Charlotte were, as on the former trip, the signal for a general salute: every ship in consequence fired 21 guns, and the crew cheered as the barges passed. On their Majesties going on board the Aquilon, and getting under sail, the like salute was fired; and the bands of the different ships played martial symphonies. The Aquilon, after sailing round the fleet, stood away towards the Needles. Owing to there being very little wind soon after the Aquilon had got to the eastward of Cowes Point, she, in going about, touched the ground, by which accident they were stopped about two hours, and night coming on, their Majesties and all the Royal Family took to their barges. The Aquilon, on the rising of the tide, was got off without receiving damage.

On the 30th their Majesties, Prince Ernest, and the Princesses went on board the Niger frigate, and sailed for Southampton, where they landed in the afternoon, and immediately proceeded in carriages for Windsor.

The marriage of his Royal Highness the Prince of Wales with her Serene Highness Caroline Amelia Augusta, the second daughter of the Duke of Brunswick, by Augusta, the eldest sister of his Britannic Majesty (whose nuptials were mentioned in the early part of this work) was, after a short period of contemplation, finally agreed upon.

Mr. Jefferys provided the jewels necessary for these royal nuptials. "An event," says this writer in his *Review of the conduct of the Prince of Wales*, "was now about to take place of great national importance in the establishment of the Prince of Wales, the intelligence of which afforded very general satisfaction to the public; it was the proposed marriage of his Royal Highness with the Princess of Brunswick, and his expected *final* separation from Mrs. Fitzherbert.

"His Royal Highness gave me orders to procure the jewels necessary on that occasion: no limit was fixed on the amount, but that the finest and best of every thing should be provided. My wish was, by the execution of these orders not to go to too great or unnecessary an expense; but the magnitude of the occasion, and the extensive orders, in pursuance of which I acted, exceeding my own ideas, the amount naturally extended to a very considerable sum—fifty-four thousand pounds; and nearly ten thousand pounds, in addition, for jewels as presents from his Royal Highness, on the marriage, to the Queen and Princesses.

"It having been reported at the time that I had

mand for the payment of about sixteen hundred pounds:—the request, therefore, which his Royal Highness had to make was, that I would interfere upon the occasion, and prevent, if possible, any personal inconvenience to Mrs. Fitzherbert. I assured his Royal Highness that I would do all I could in the business, and I was appointed to attend with the result of my endeavours, at Carlton House, the next morning. I did attend as appointed, and presented the Prince of Wales with a receipt for the whole sum.—In the afternoon of the same day on which I had so highly gratified the Prince, his Royal Highness came to my house, and brought with him Mrs. Fitzherbert, for the express purpose that she might herself thank me for the great and essential service I had that morning rendered to her.”

Mr. Jefferys afterwards published a “letter addressed to Mrs. Fitzherbert,” the style of which corresponded with his former pamphlet—“It is now many years since you were first upon a footing of *intimacy* with the Prince of Wales. A house of great expence was taken for you in Pall Mall, communicating *privately* with Carlton House, and the house adjoining the Pavilion at Brighton was appropriated to your use, with an establishment, infinitely beyond the limits of your original income. When the Prince of Wales was married to the Princess, it was agreed that you should retire from that *intimacy of friendship* you had so long enjoyed, and your houses in Pall Mall, and at Brigh-

ton, were given up accordingly.”—“ On the unexpected renewal of *intimacy*, an establishment upon a still larger scale was formed for you: a noble house in Park-lane, most magnificently fitted up, and superbly furnished; a large retinue of servants; carriages of various descriptions; a new pavilion, built for your *separate* residence at Brighton, and the Prince more frequently in your society than ever!”

It should be recollected that the attachment alluded to by this egotist had been formed *long before* marriage; and it is evident that private pique alone gave rise to the invectives of a Jefferys. The Queen has occasionally thought some articles in the jewellery line too dear, as we have previously remarked; but for the marriage of the Prince of Wales her Majesty did not think the intended presents “ of sufficient elegance.” This cannot appear paradoxical if we recollect that his Royal Highness was the favourite son, and her Majesty naturally wished that all the presents on this interesting occasion should be worthy of the heir apparent.

The following is the character given by Mr. Jefferys of the Duke of York:—“ I speak of his Royal Highness from **EXPERIENCE**: he has conferred upon me many favours, *his Royal Highness never made me a promise which he did not perform*: and I have no hesitation in saying there is not (in my opinion) a man existing, on whose bare word I could rely with more satisfaction than on that of

the Duke of York. I firmly believe that, in a strict adherence to his word, he is (like his Royal Father) a man of PERFECT INTEGRITY."

April the 5th, 1795, the Princess of Wales, accompanied by Mrs. Harcourt, Lord Malmsbury, and Commodore Payne, went from the Jupiter, on board one of the Royal yachts, and a few minutes after 12 o'clock landed at Greenwich Hospital. She was received by Sir Hugh Palliser, the governor, and other officers, who conducted her to the governor's house, where she took tea and coffee. About an hour after the Princess had landed, Lady Jersey arrived at the Governor's; and soon after they both retired into an adjoining room, and the dress of the Princess was changed from a muslin gown and blue satin petticoat, with a black beaver hat and blue and black feathers, for a white satin gown, and very elegant turban cap of satin, trimmed with crape and ornamented with white feathers, which were brought from town by Lady Jersey. The Princess had travelled in a mantle of green satin, trimmed with gold, with loops and tassels à la Brandenburg.

A little after two o'clock her Serene Highness left the Governor's house, and got into one of the King's coaches, drawn by six horses. In this coach were also Mrs. Harcourt and Lady Jersey. Another of his Majesty's coaches and six preceded it, in which were Mrs. Harvey Aston, Lord Malmesbury, Lord Clermont, and Colonel Greville. In

a third coach and four horses, were two women servants, whom the Princess brought from Germany, and were her only German attendants from thence. The Princess's carriage was escorted on each side by a party of the Prince of Wales's own regiment of Light Dragoons, commanded by Lord Edward Somerset, son to the Duke of Beaufort. Besides this escort, the road was lined at small distances by troops of the heavy dragoons, who were stationed from Greenwich all the way to the Horse Guards. At three o'clock her Serene Highness alighted at St. James's, and was introduced into the apartments prepared for her reception. After a short time the Princess appeared at the windows, which were thrown up. The people huzzaed, and she courtied, and this continued for some time, until the Prince of Wales arrived from Carlton House. At a little before five o'clock the Prince and Princess sat down to dinner. The people continuing to huzza before the palace his Royal Highness appeared at the window, and thanked them for their loyalty and attention to the Princess, but hoped they would excuse her appearance there, as it might give her cold. This completely satisfied the crowd, who gave the Prince three cheers.

In the evening, when the populace had become rather *uproarious* in their expressions of loyalty, in Cleveland Row, her Serene Highness, in a voice replete with melody and delicacy of tone, thus addressed them from her Palace window :

“ Believe me, I feel very happy and delighted to see the GOOD and BRAVE English people—the best Nation upon earth.”

The Prince of Wales afterwards addressed the populace in a very engaging manner, and received the tribute of universal applause.

On the evening of the 8th of April the solemnity of the marriage of his Royal Highness the Prince of Wales and her Serene Highness the Princess of Brunswick was performed at the Chapel Royal, by the Archbishop of Canterbury. On entering the chapel, her Highness was conducted to the seat prepared for her near her Majesty's chair of state. The King was attended by the great officers of his household, and the Queen by the master of the horse, &c. The bridegroom's procession terminated with their Royal Highnesses the Princess Royal, Princesses Augusta Sophia, Elizabeth, Mary, Sophia, and Amelia, the Duchess of York and Princess Sophia of Gloucester, supported severally by their gentlemen ushers. The whole procession, at the return, filed off in the privy chamber. Their Majesties, the bridegroom and bride, with the rest of the Royal Family and the great officers, proceeded into the levee chamber, where the register of the marriage was attested with the usual formalities, after which the procession continued into the lesser drawing-room; and their Majesties, with the bridegroom, the bride, and the rest of the Royal Family, passed into the Great Council Chamber, where the great officers, nobility,

foreign ministers, and other persons of distinction paid their compliments on the occasion. The evening concluded with very splendid illuminations and other public demonstrations of joy throughout London and Westminster.

Addresses of congratulation both to the King and Queen, on the marriage of his Royal Highness the Prince of Wales, were unanimously voted by both Houses of Parliament. On receiving these addresses his Majesty sent a message to the House of Commons, relative to a suitable provision for the Royal bridegroom and bride, and his Majesty "felt the deepest regret in communicating to the House, that the benefit of any settlement that might be made must fail in its most desirable effect if means were not provided to extricate his Royal Highness from the incumbrances under which he laboured to a great amount." Some debate took place in consequence of a former application on the same subject, and the promises then made that no such embarrassments should again occur. The establishment now agreed upon was 125,000*l.* exclusive of the revenues of the Duchy of Cornwall; 18,000*l.* to defray the preparatory expences of the marriage, and 50,000*l.* as a jointure for her Royal Highness.

Upon an application to Parliament to pay the debts of the Prince of Wales, the management of His Royal Highness's affairs were (by the authority of Parliament) placed under the direction of commissioners. The amount of Mr. Jeffery's bill de-

livered to the commissioners in May, was 54,685*l*. and a proposal being made by the commissioners that he should deduct about 14,000*l*. he enquired if there were any appeal against the decisions of the commissioners, to which Mr. Pitt replied, that the act of parliament provided redress by an appeal to a Jury: to such a decision he submitted his claim, and obtained verdicts

For grants on the marriage of	£.	s.
the Prince - - - - -	50,997	10
— Bond debts - - - - -	24,700	0
— Presents of jewels, on the marriage, to the Queen and Royal Family - - - - -	9,331	9

These three last claims were admitted by the commissioners.

The Prince of Wales having withdrawn his favors entirely from Mr. Jefferys, returned to Mr. Gray, of Sackville-street; and a great number of the nobility followed his Royal Highness's example.

Frogmore now became the favourite residence of the Queen, which was celebrated in the earlier periods of English history. In the reign of Charles II. it was the property of Fitzroy, Duke of Northumberland, whose widow died there at an advanced age. It was also the residence of Marshal Belleisle, after his release from the castle, and was afterwards the seat of Sir Edward Walpole, K. B. and of the Hon. Mrs. Egerton, of whom it was now purchased by the Queen.

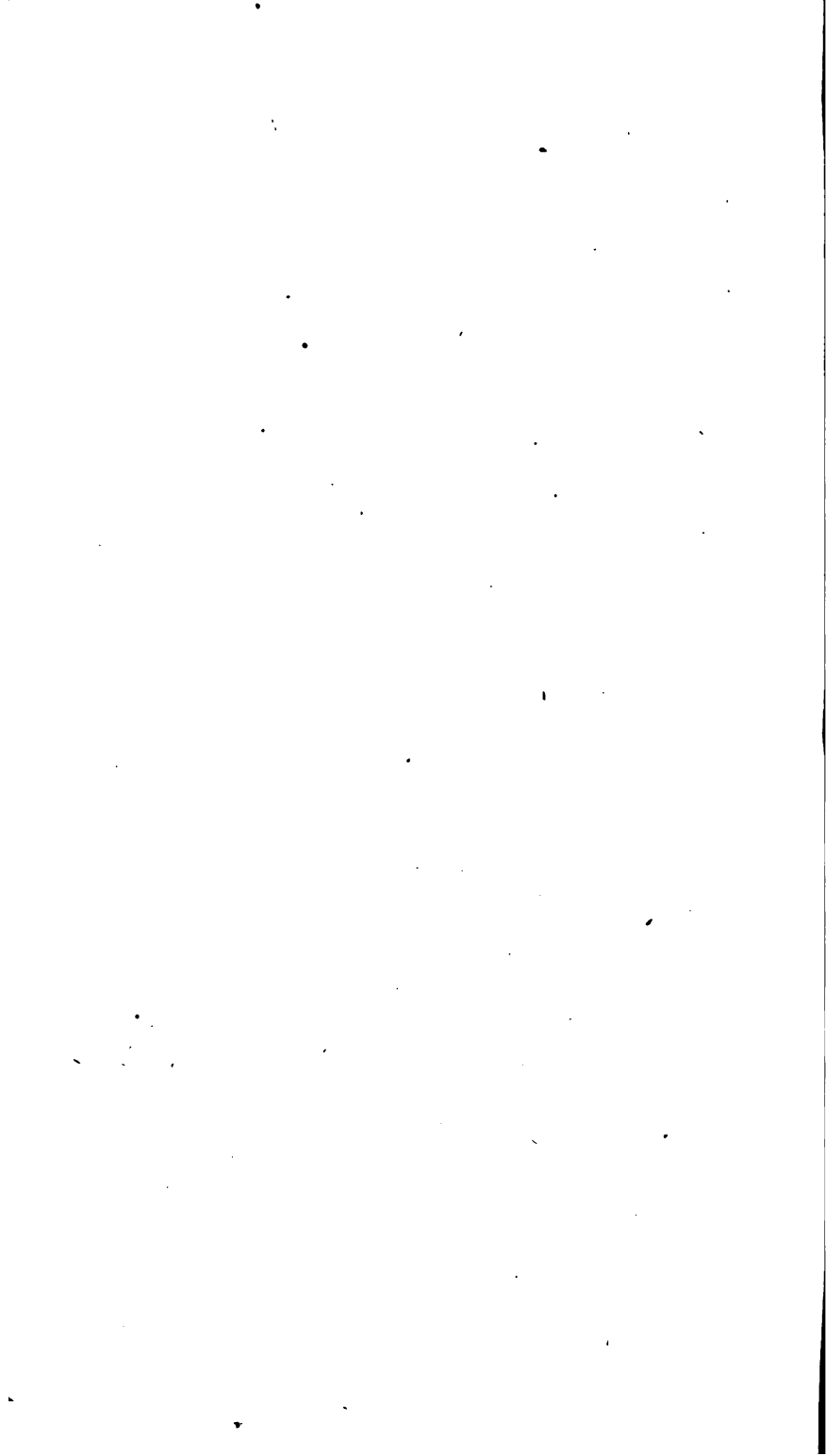
Frogmore is situated about half a mile east of Windsor, and occupies part of a very fertile valley, which divides the little park from the forest. It has not only been considerably enlarged by her Majesty, but materially improved. An area of thirteen acres is laid out in a beautiful pleasure-garden, diversified with a canal winding in different directions; in one part spreading its waters before the front of the house, and again retiring beneath the thick woods. In this sweetly sequestered spot every thing is serene and pleasant. The devious path, the umbrageous thicket, the dilapidated ruin, and secluded temple, all conspire to render it peculiarly interesting. Exclusive of the variety of indigenous and exotic trees and shrubs which are scattered through the grounds, the garden is ornamented with five buildings, viz.—the gothic temple, the ruin, the hermitage, the temple of solitude, and the barn. The ruin was erected from a design by Mr. Wyatt; and being seated on the water's edge, partly immersed in woods, and diversified with the creeping ivy and fractured wall, it constitutes a truly picturesque ornament, when seen from many points of view. The hermitage is a small circular thatched building, situated in the south-west corner of the garden, and completely embowered with lofty trees. It was constructed from a drawing by the Princess Elizabeth, whose taste and skill in this polite art evince considerable genius and application. A series of prints, intituled, "The Birth and Triumph of Cupid," were en-



Engraved by J. Shury.

F R O G M O R E .

(The favorite residence of Her late Majesty.)



graved from the beautiful designs of this Princess, executed with much delicacy and correctness. Her Majesty had a great taste for drawing.

Frogmore Lodge, though not large, is a neat modern structure, much improved and beautified by Mr. Wyatt. It is partly built with freestone, and partly cased, and is decorated with a projecting colonnade towards the south, uniting the principal building with two uniform wings. The apartments are furnished in a plain but peculiarly neat manner. One of them is embellished with the original sketches by Mr. West, and paintings by Miss Moser, that were copied to ornament the throne in the castle; and several others are decorated with paintings, and a variety of drawings.

The recent improvements and alterations made in the gardens are very considerable, and are highly creditable to the taste and judgment of Major Price, who directed the operations. The surrounding scenery is judiciously contrived to assimilate with the character of the place; the view of every distant object being excluded by trees and under-wood.

The first fete given at Frogmore was on the 19th of May, where her Majesty entertained her Royal daughter-in-law, the Princess of Wales, in a most sumptuous manner.

The scarcity and distress which the war with the revolutionists of France had occasioned at this time, frequently produced disorder and turbulence. As his Majesty was going to the House of Lords,

October the 29th, the Mall and Parade of St. James's Park and Parliament Street were completely choaked up with spectators : the crowd was by no means so great at the coronation, as they amounted at least to 200,000. Several noblemen and cabinet ministers who passed through the Park from Buckingham House were hissed and hooted; particularly the Earl of Chatham, the Dukes of Gloucester, Portland, &c. His Majesty was likewise hooted all the way; but no violence was offered till he arrived opposite the Ordnance Office, when a small pebble, marble, or bullet, broke one of the windows. The King said to Lord Westmorland, " That is a shot," and instead of leaning back, or striving to avoid the assassin, he pointed to the round hole in the pane, and examined it. In returning, the moment his Majesty entered the Park, the gates of the Horse Guards were shut, for the purpose of excluding the mob who followed the carriage. As it passed opposite Spring Gardens Terrace another stone was thrown, but it fortunately struck the wood-work between the windows. His Majesty went into his private coach to go from St. James's to the Queen's House, in the midst of the wildest commotions of the multitude, who surrounded the carriage and prevented it from proceeding, crying out, " Bread ! Bread ! Peace ! Peace !" His Majesty, in considerable agitation, signified, by waving his hands to the horseguards, that the people should be kept at a distance. The guards speedily brought up and protected the

carriage. In this way he passed on through the Park, and round by the Stable-yard into St. James's Palace, at the front gate. A considerable tumult took place when his Majesty was about to alight, and one of the horses in the state coach taking fright, threw down an old groom, of the name of Dorrington, and broke his thigh; but it fortunately proved a simple fracture. His other thigh was considerably bruised, but not dangerously. The mob attacked the state coach with stones, and did it considerable injury. The King, and those who had accompanied him, were of opinion that the glass of the coach had been broken by a ball from an air-gun; which had been shot from a bow-window of a house adjoining the Ordnance Office. Three or four persons were apprehended on suspicion of having thrown stones, &c. and one of them (Kyd Wake) was charged with having called out, "No King" and other similar expressions. He was afterwards found guilty, and sentenced to be imprisoned five years, stand in the pillory, and give securities for 1000*l*. Notwithstanding these disturbances their Majesties and three of the Princesses visited Covent-Garden Theatre the following evening, to see the comedy of "The Rivals." On their entrance they were received with the usual burst of applause. "God save the King" was sung twice, and by a considerable part of the house over-zealously called for a third time: this, in a corner of the gallery, provoked a few hisses, which were soon over-ruled.

A violent hurricane created additional alarms

November the 6th. The King and Queen, who were at Buckingham House, arose from their beds, and many hundreds of families did the same. Its ravages were dreadful, though happily its continuance was short.

On the 7th of January, 1796, the birth of a Princess, Charlotte Caroline Augusta, tended in some degree to dissipate the gloom which the "stern alarms" of war had spread over the nation. Earl Mansfield, in the House of Lords, moved an address of congratulation upon the happy event—the safe delivery of her Royal Highness the Princess of Wales, which passed unanimously, and was ordered to be presented to the King by the Lords with white staves. A similar address to the Queen was ordered to be presented by the Lord President of the Council, and a third to the Prince and Princess of Wales, by the Lord Privy Seal and the Duke of Portland. Mr. Pitt at the same time moved in the House of Commons, "That a congratulatory address be presented to his Majesty on the increase of the Royal Family, by the birth of a Princess," and also that congratulatory messages be sent on the same occasion to her Majesty, and to their Royal Highnesses the Prince and Princess of Wales, which were agreed to *nem. con.* Both their Majesties took a lively interest in the education of their amiable grand daughter; and Mrs. Hannah More, at the instigation of the Queen, produced her "Hints for the education of a young Princess," a juvenile work of considerable merit. The Queen

also furnished her illustrious grand-daughter with some of her earliest toys, among which was a mouse, consisting chiefly of gold, with two capital brilliants for eyes, and, from the clock-work within, capable of running round a table two or three times.

Soon after the safety of the King's person underwent the consideration of Parliament, another attack was made, February the 1st, when the Royal Family went to Drury Lane Theatre. On their return, after eleven o'clock at night, when the carriages had reached the end of John Street, Pall Mall, a stone was flung, with such force as to break one of the glass pannels in the coach, in which were their Majesties and the lady in waiting; which, after striking the Queen on the cheek, fell into Lady Harrington's lap. A reward of 1000*l.* was offered for the discovery of the offenders.

The Princess Royal had been confined for some months with the yellow jaundice, but her Royal Highness was able to be present at the Queen's drawing-room, February the 16th, 1797, with her royal sisters Augusta and Elizabeth, and the Prince and Princess of Orange. The Countess of Harrington attended the Queen as lady of the bed-chamber in waiting, and Lady C. Waldegrave attended the Princesses. A light tinge of the disorder was still perceivable round the eyes of the Princess Royal, whose marriage with the Duke of

Wirtemberg (son-in-law to the Duke of Brunswick Wulfenbottle) was at this time settled.

This year commenced with some alarms—the invasion of Great Britain was ridiculously attempted by a force of 12,000 men, without artillery, and almost without accoutrements, who landed on the coast of Pembrokeshire, but surrendered almost without resistance, on the approach of a very inadequate force. The public mind was further agitated by the stoppage of specie at the Bank of England. A run had taken place upon some of the country banks, and the great demand for specie induced the directors of the Bank of England to lay the state of their company before the minister; in consequence of which, an order of council was issued, February the 26th, prohibiting the further payment of specie by the Bank. The one and two pound notes were now first circulated, which have since been the occasion of so many executions.

The Duke of Wirtemberg did not arrive in London until a short time before his marriage with the Princess Royal, which took place on the 18th of May, with all the ceremonies usually observed in the royal nuptials. Among the presents on this occasion was a diamond ring, containing thirty-five brilliants (one grain each.) The ring was ordered by her Majesty; and while it was in hand at Mr. Forster's, in Richmond Buildings, a chicken, which had access to the shop, pecked all the bril-

hants, but was fortunately detected in swallowing the last. The poor fowl was immediately immolated, and the thirty brilliants found in the gizzard. Notwithstanding this delay the ring was sent to Mr. Gray at the promised time, who, when informed of the accident, could not help smiling and saying that the chicken was too fond of *rich* bits.

On the 23d the Queen gave a grand entertainment at Frogmore, in honour of the royal marriage. Soon after which her Royal Highness and the Duke of Wirtemberg sailed for the continent.

Their Majesties, as usual, visited Weymouth this year, where the following circumstance considerably diminished the popularity of the Queen. A linen-draper, for the sake of ready money, exposed for sale a quantity of calico at 6d. a yard. Her Majesty, when informed of it, sent the man an order for the whole, which was immediately sent off to Windsor, &c. The linen-draper, however, was not paid till the usual time of settling the tradesmen's bills. The Queen was certainly not aware that she had disappointed several of the poor inhabitants of Weymouth of bargains; on the contrary, a large quantity of this calico was converted to charitable purposes, and the remainder was cut up for chair covers, &c.

Several children were educated at the expense of the Queen in Datchet Lane, near Frogmore, and on the stalls of in George's Chapel, Windsor, are various carved devices, among which is one in

commemoration of this bounty. It should be observed that the Duchess of York had a similar institution at Oatlands, where, on some occasions, her Royal Highness personally examined the children, and rewarded them for any peculiar marks of docility.

The 19th of December was appointed to be observed as a day of thanksgiving for the naval victories obtained by Sir John Jervis (afterwards Earl St. Vincent,) over a Spanish fleet, of much superior force; and by Admiral Duncan, afterwards Viscount Duncan, over the Dutch fleet in the Texel. His Majesty and both Houses of Parliament went, on this day, in solemn procession to St. Paul's.

The constant meetings of parties to public dinners, and the seditious tendency of their toasts, awakened the vigilance of government. The assemblage of the Whig Club, at the Freemason's tavern in 1798, was remarkable for the avowal of some bold and extraordinary sentiments by Mr. Fox, who said "I'll give you a toast than which I think there cannot be a better, according to the principles of this club—I mean the sovereignty of the People of Great Britain." The Directory of France at this time, with threats "full of sound and fury, signifying nothing," talked of the invasion of Great Britain. Mr. Fox said he would be one of the first to aid in repelling any foreign enemy, under whatever government England might be. He compared the then ministry with the Directory of France; affirmed that he was

resolved upon retirement; but that he would be happy to come forward whenever the country demanded his services. He entertained no apprehensions of an invasion, and was fully persuaded that should the enemy be rash enough to land even with a formidable force, the spirit of the English would soon destroy the invaders.

His Majesty was so displeased with the conduct of Mr. Fox at this meeting, that he immediately struck his name out of the list of privy counsellors.

Such was the violence of parties at this time that during a debate in the House of Commons on the bill for suspending seamen's protections, Mr. Pitt said that he regarded Mr. Tierney's opposition to it as proceeding from a wish to impede the service of the country. Mr. Tierney called Mr. Pitt to order, and appealed to the House whether such terms should be used. The speaker said, that if the House considered the words as conveying a personal reflection on the honourable gentleman, they were in that point of view to be regarded as *unparliamentary*. They would wait, however, for the explanation of the right hon. gentleman. Mr. Pitt said, that if he was called on to *explain away* any thing that he had said, the House might wait long enough for the explanation; he would neither *explain* nor *retract* any particle of what he had said on the subject. Mr. Tierney accordingly challenged Mr. Pitt. In the afternoon of May the 27th, Mr. Pitt accompanied by Mr. Ryder

and Mr. Tierney, accompanied by Mr. Walpole, met at 8 o'clock, on Putney Heath, near the gibbet of the notorious Abershaw, who had been lately hanged. The Speaker, Mr. Whitbread, and Mr. Grey, as well as two surgeons, were stationed near the spot. After some ineffectual attempts on the part of the seconds to prevent further proceedings, the parties took their ground at the distance of twelve paces. Pistols were fired at the same moment without effect: a second fire had also the same result, Mr. Pitt having fired his pistol in the air. The seconds then jointly interfered, and insisted that the matter should go no further, it being their decided opinion that sufficient satisfaction had been given, and that the business had terminated with perfect honor to both parties.

Nelson's glorious victory off the mouth of the Nile, took place on the 1st of August: he had been in quest of the French fleet for some time, and when he had descried them, his leading ship, the Culloden, ran a-ground, and Nelson found himself with ten ships only (three having fallen several leagues astern,) to fight thirteen of the enemy, and several of these of superior force. Their six headmost ships were taken possession of the first night, and L'Orient blew up. Next morning, at day-light, the action commenced, and other ships were taken or destroyed. The battle did not end till the forenoon of the third day. Admiral Nelson sent the city of London the sword of the commanding French Admiral, Mons. Blanquet, which

was put in the most conspicuous place in the common-council chamber, with an appropriate inscription on a marble tablet. Admiral Nelson was soon after raised to the peerage.

A magnificent fête was given at Belvoir Castle, January the 4th, 1799, where the nobility and gentry, with the heir-apparent of the throne, were assembled to compliment a young nobleman on his coming of age. Belvoir Castle became on that day the seat of the most hospitable splendour; roasted oxen and hogsheads of ale were bountifully distributed. About four hundred persons were received by the Duchess of Rutland in the apartments, and sat down to dinner with her and the Duke. The invitation was for dinner, ball, and supper, but very few left the festive board till the next day's sun lighted them to their respective homes. As many as the castle could supply with beds, or be lodged in the neighbouring houses, remained, as the entertainments within doors and without continued till the Duke returned to Ireland to join his regiment. Belvoir was wholly illuminated on the occasion, and being situated like Windsor Castle, had a very splendid and grand effect. The number of persons within the castle and without were supposed to be about 10,000.

Annuities out of the consolidated fund, of 12,000*l.* each, were granted this year by Parliament to their Royal Highnesses Princes Edward and Ernest.

Mr. Pitt stated (March the 11th) that 30,000*l.* was allowed his Majesty out of the hereditary

revenue for the support of the five Princesses in the year 1782, before the Princess Amelia was born ; consequently no provision was made for that Princess. Mr. Pitt therefore moved, that leave be given to bring in a bill to enable his Majesty to provide out of the 30,000*l.* from the hereditary revenue for the Princess Amelia. The motion was unanimously agreed to.

Between eight and nine o'clock in the morning of June the 21st, his Majesty, mounted on a beautiful charger, and followed by the male branches of the Royal Family, a crowd of general officers, &c. went from Buckingham House to inspect all the volunteer corps in different streets of the metropolis. He passed over Westminster Bridge, and proceeded by the Obelisk to Blackfriars Bridge ; on the centre of which he was met by the Lord-Mayor and Aldermen, who afterwards rode before him, the Lord-Mayor carrying the sword of state. His Majesty proceeded through Bridge Street, St. Paul's Church-yard, Cornhill, &c. in front of the different associations, making a circle to the Artillery Ground, where the Prince of Wales, as colonel, appeared at the head of the Artillery Company, and thence to the Lord Chancellor's, in Upper Guildford Street, where all the Royal Family breakfasted. The King then reviewed the Bloomsbury and other corps in the neighbourhood, and about six o'clock returned home. The number of volunteers visited by the King were 12,000.

On the 1st of August the King, Queen, and

Princesses Augusta and Elizabeth, accompanied by the Countess of Harrington, set off in two carriages, at half past five o'clock from Kew Palace, for Lord Romney's seat in the Moat Park, Maidstone. The royal party stopped to breakfast at Earl Camden's seat at Riverhead, where they were met by the Prince of Wales, Duke of Cumberland, and numbers of the nobility, and the King's equerries in waiting. The Royal Family reached the ground at twelve o'clock, on which above 5000 of the volunteers of the county of Kent were drawn up under the command of their different officers, and his Royal Highness the Duke of York. Earl Camden gave the word of command to his own corps of cavalry, and Lord Romney to the infantry corps. The regiments went through their exercise in a manner highly satisfactory to his Majesty.

After the review, marquees were erected on the lawn for their Majesties and nobility to dine in, and tables in view of the royal tents were laid out for the volunteers. The entertainment, to which 6600 persons sat down, consisted of every delicacy of the season.

At six o'clock their Majesties and the Princesses took leave of their noble host, and returned to Kew.

The town of Maidstone was brilliantly illuminated in the evening, and a grand ball was given at the town-hall.

The strength of the different associations of Kent

which underwent the royal inspection amounted to 5,721.

From the following statement the reader may form an idea of the dinner provided for the different companies of volunteers :

- 60 lambs, in quarters.
- 200 dishes of roast beef.
- 700 ditto of fowls (three in a dish.)
- 220 ditto of meat pies:
- 220 ditto of roasted veal.
- 300 hams.
- 300 tongues.
- 220 dishes of boiled beef.
- 220 fruit pies.

Seven pipes of port were bottled off, and sixteen butts of ale and as much small beer, to supply the company.

Princess Amelia, the King's favourite and youngest daughter, who had been for some time confined to her chamber, was now declared in a state of convalescence. On her Royal Highness's recovery a grand entertainment was given by the Queen at Frogmore, where her birth-day (August the 7th) was celebrated in a very joyous manner by the Royal Family and the nobility who were invited on the occasion. The Royal Family and the female nobility dined in the temporary room, in which were five tables, furnished with 80 covers; next to which three tents were erected for the officers and noblemen. After the dinner Mr. Quick, Mr. Elliston, and Mrs. Mattocks entertained the

company with dramatic exhibitions. Mr. Elliston in the character of Merlin spoke the following lines, written by Lady Sudley.

(TO THE KING.)

“ Hail to the Monarch whose transcendent worth,
 ‘Midst all the crimes of this distracted earth,
 Alone each trial gloriously withstood !

(TO THE QUEEN.)

“ Hail to the loved—the honoured, and the good !
 No foes united shall thy power withstand,
 Whilst thy protecting virtues guard the land.
 Far from the world while here retired I dwell,
 And all its changes, all its fates foretel ;
 The good oft doubt—the bad will oft revile,
 Some with contempt, while few with hope will smile !
 Now from my cell with triumph I advance,
 And the exulting triumph to enhance,
 My joyful eyes behold the glorious sight,
 Yielding at all times and to all delight ;
 But now in each true heart what rapture dwells—
 I judge from that which now my bosom swells—
 Thus to behold the promised joy complete,

(TO PRINCESS AMELIA.)

“ And thou, sweet maid, permit me thee to greet ;
 To greet the morn, but more thy health restored,
 A blessing anxiously for thee implored
 For twelve months past, meanwhile I felt the grief
 Which seem’d at times to mock th’ implored relief,—
 I felt the pangs which rent thy parent’s heart,
 But I foresaw the end by magic art ;
 Thy resignation mild, sweet suffering saint,
 Who in the hour of trial scorn’d complaint,

Gives ample promise in thy early youth
That thy exalted Father's matchless truth—
His various virtues which conspicuous shine—
In riper years, shall surely all be thine.

(TO THE PRINCESS OF ORANGE.)

"Thou too my greetings shar'st, respected Dame ;
Soon shall Batavia's land thy presence claim,
Link'd with thy hosts in blood and friendship's chains,
Ever with thee their subjects' love remains."

A heavy rain kept the visitors in the house till seven in the evening, when their Majesties and the company went to the ball-room. A long covered awning, illuminated with lamps, similar to that in Vauxhall, was erected from the house to the place allotted for the sports. The enchanting place to which they were conducted was the entire design of Princess Elizabeth, as already observed : the middle space was allotted to the dancers, and the two sides to the company. The pillars were covered with bay leaves and artificial flowers, wreaths of flowers decorating the intermediate spaces at the top : the chandeliers suspended from the ceiling were in the shape of a bee-hive : at the upper end of them formed the tassel ; between each row of lamps were interwoven ears of corn, blue bells, violets, lilies of the and valley. For the accommodation of the company cottage rush chairs were provided, and the place altogether formed a most delightful scene. Pavilions adjoining the rooms were erected for serving the company with

tea and refreshments. The ladies all appeared in white.

At the conclusion of the ball the Princess Elizabeth reconducted her company back to the house to supper. The Princess Amelia leaned on the arm of the Prince of Wales. In the supper room a beautiful transparency was displayed in compliment to the Princess Amelia; on the tablet of the picture were the words "The offering of Gratitude for restored health."

On the 7th of September, 2000 troops embarked at Deal: on the 8th, 5000 more embarked there; also, in the evening, the Duke of York, under a royal salute from the ships and batteries. The Cambrian, of 40 guns, being unable to get into the Downs, his Royal Highness took his passage in the Amethyst, of 38 guns, for Holland. On the 10th, 2300 more troops embarked for Deal, from whence Lord Chatham proceeded in La Pomone, of 44 guns, for the Texel. On the 11th Prince William of Gloucester, on board the Nemesis, of 28 guns, went from the same place to join the army, and was followed by the troops which had been embarked, amounting to 14,000 men.

A circumstance occurred in the morning of the 15th of May, 1800, in Hyde Park, which caused a considerable sensation through the town as soon as it became public. His Majesty was attending the field exercises of the grenadier battalion of the guards, when, during one of the volleys, a ball cartridge was fired from the musquet of one of the

soldiers, which struck Mr. Ongley, a clerk in the allotment department of the Navy Office, who was standing only twenty-three feet distance from the King! The ball entered the fleshy part of the thigh in front, and passed straight through. His Majesty immediately directed the military surgeon present to examine and dress Mr. Ongley's wound, and was much gratified by the favourable report made by Mr. Nixon, the surgeon of the grenadiers: had the wound been an inch higher, however, it must have proved fatal. His Majesty, on coming from the field, sent his commands to Mr. Keate, the surgeon-general, and Mr. Rush, the inspector of hospitals, to wait on Mr. Ongley, and to offer their assistance during the progress of his cure.

An examination had taken place of the cartouch boxes of the soldiers, but no individual could be fixed upon as the perpetrator of this act.

In the evening another extraordinary circumstance occurred at the Theatre Royal, Drury Lane, which, coupled with the above, gave rise to many serious apprehensions. The entertainments, "She would and She would not," and the "Humourist," were by command of their Majesties; and at the moment when the King entered his box, a man in the pit, near the orchestra on the right hand side, stood up and discharged a pistol at his Majesty, who had advanced about four steps from the door. On the report of the pistol, his Majesty stopped, and stood firmly while the cry of "seize him" burst from every part of the theatre. The Queen

came in, and the King waved his hand for her to keep back. Her Majesty asked, "what is the matter?" The King replied—"only a squib—a squib; they are firing squibs;" and not the least disconcerted, came nearly to the front of the box. The man who had committed the crime was seized and conveyed from the pit. The audience vehemently called out "show him," in consequence of which Mr. Kelly, and others belonging to the theatre, rushed upon the stage, and assured them that the culprit was in safe custody. The Queen now came forward, and in great agitation court-sied: she clasped her hands, looked at the King, and asked if they should stay. His Majesty answered, "we will not stir, but sit the entertainments out." All the Princesses, except Elizabeth, fainted as soon as they sat down; and that princess exerted herself greatly in recovering her Royal sisters. The Duke and Duchess of York were in their box at the time; but immediately after the transaction, his Royal Highness left it.

The Prince of Wales was at dinner at Lord Melbourne's, but having been immediately informed of the event by Mr. Jefferys, who left the play for the purpose of seizing this opportunity of seeing his Royal Highness, the Prince instantly left his company and went to the theatre.

As soon as the indignation of the audience was soothed, "God save the King" was instantly demanded. It was sung by all the vocal performers, and encored. At the end of the farce, the song

was again demanded, when Mr. Kelly sung the following additional verse, an *impromptu*, by Mr. Burgess:

“ From every latent foe,
From the Assassin's blow,
God save the King.
O'er him thine arm extend,
For Britain's sake defend
Our Father, Prince, and Friend—
God save the King !”

This stanza gave the audience peculiar pleasure, and was *encored* by the eager desire of the whole house.

Mr. Holroyd, of Scotland Yard, plumber to his Majesty, providentially had time to raise the arm of the maniac, so as to direct the contents of the pistol towards the roof of the box. He dropped the pistol which was found under the seat. He proved to be a James Hatfield, who had served his time to a working silversmith, but having enlisted into the 15th light dragoons, had fought for the King whom he had fired at. The Prince of Wales and Duke of York were present at the examination : he immediately turned to the Duke, and said, “ I know your Royal Highness—God bless you—you are a good fellow, and (pointing to a deep cut over his eye, and another long scar on his cheek), I got these, and more than these in fighting by your side. At Lincelles, I was left three hours among the dead in a ditch, and was taken prisoner by the French. I had my arm

broken by a shot, and eight sabre wounds in my head—but I recovered, and here I am." Being asked why he attempted the life of his sovereign, he replied, that he had not attempted to kill the King—he had fired his pistol over the Royal box—*he was as good a shot as any in England*; but he was himself weary of life—he wished for death, but not to die by his own hands; and thought that the spectators would have fallen upon him—he hoped his life was forfeited.

The Royal party left the theatre amidst the prayers and plaudits of the crowded circle. When the King's carriage came to the corner of Southampton Street, a person, by trade a shoemaker, who had placed himself there for the purpose, hooted and hissed his Majesty in such an audacious manner, that he was at length taken into custody. When the Royal Family reached Buckingham House, the supper was brought up, but none of them sat down. Her Majesty drank a glass of wine and water, and then retired.

The Princess Amelia, who had been ill near two years, fainted on entering her chamber; and the fits continued so long, that her restoration to life appeared doubtful. The King, on hearing of her situation, went to her Royal Highness's chamber, and attended her until recollection returned, when she threw herself into the King's arms, and said, "she would be comforted." His Majesty, on leaving the chamber of Amelia, went to the other Princesses, Elizabeth, Mary, and Augusta, whose

situation was nearly the same as Amelia's ; but a great flow of tears brought them relief. During this scene of confusion, the Princess Sophia, who had been indisposed, repeatedly called to her attendant to know the cause of it. The attendant very properly equivocated, and said that the Princess Amelia had returned from the theatre very ill. His Majesty, on passing, said, " Sophia, good night," and retired to rest ; it was then one o'clock.

The next morning the Prince of Wales, Dukes of York, Clarence, Cumberland, Gloucester, and Prince William breakfasted with their Majesties and the Princesses ; who, though they had suffered great depression of spirits, were much better in the morning.

The Queen gave a grand fete at Frogmore on the 15th of May, for the purpose of celebrating this providential escape of his Majesty.

A grand sight was exhibited in Hyde Park on the King's birth day. At six o'clock all the volunteer corps in London and its immediate vicinity, to the number of 12,000, were under arms, and assembled in the field before eight. His Majesty arrived at nine, attended by the Prince of Wales, the Dukes of York, Cumberland, and Gloucester ; Earls Harrington and Chatham, Lord Cathcart, the general officers, &c. Although it poured very hard the King continued without even a great coat, equally exposed as the meanest of his subjects : the only observable difference from his usual con-

duct, on similar occasions was, that as he passed the line he did not keep his hat off quite so long as in fine weather. The formation of the line, and the various orders of the day were executed with precision, and the firing under every disadvantage was excellent. The evolutions ended about two o'clock. His Majesty and the Princes returned to Buckingham House; when all the corps filed off, after enduring a soaking rain for upwards of eight hours.

At noon the Queen held a Court for the nobility, which was most numerous and brilliantly attended. The young Princess Charlotte of Wales was taken to the Palace by the Countess of Elgin. The ball room was also filled with elegant company; the Princess of Wales was tastefully ornamented with diamonds.

The next morning the Queen and Princesses Augusta, Elizabeth and Mary, took an airing to Chelsea, to pay a visit to Viscountess Cremorne; where her Majesty and their Royal Highnesses partook of an elegant *déjeune*, walked in the gardens, and then returned home to dinner. The Ladies' Society for the education and employment of the Female Poor, Church Row, Chelsea, was patronized by the Queen.

His Majesty, attended by his whole family, ministers, &c. visited the Marquis of Salisbury's seat at Hatfield, where the yeomanry and volunteer corps of Hertfordshire were reviewed. The Royal Family were most sumptuously entertained

by the Marquis. Tables were also provided for the volunteers, consisting of upwards of 1500, and for the country people three bullocks, 16 sheep and 25 lambs, were dressed at the Salisbury Arms. The expence was estimated at 3000*l*.

At the trial of James Hatfield for High Treason, June the 26th, the proofs of his insanity were so strong that the Jury were directed to find a verdict of Not Guilty, from the impression that he laboured under the influence of mental derangement. Hatfield was consequently ordered to be kept in confinement.

Lord Nelson, with Sir William and Lady Hamilton, arrived at Yarmouth from Hamburgh, in the King George Post Office packet, November the 5th. Upon his lordship's landing the populace took the horses from the carriage, and drew him to the Wrestlers' Inn. The Mayor and corporation immediately waited on him, and presented the freedom of the town, sometime ago voted to him for his services to his country.

On the 12th his Majesty held a levee, at which Lord Nelson and Sir W. Hamilton were presented on their arrival from Naples.

The King held another levee at St. James's, on the 19th, when the Algerine ambassador, who went to court in one of the royal carriages, had his first audience, and presented to his Majesty two beautiful horses, the skins of several tigers, &c. a sword, and other valuables.

In consequence of the attack which had been

made on the venerable monarch at the theatre, by Hatfield, the maniac, the Queen made use of every tender stratagem to keep her Royal partner from visiting theatrical amusements, of which his Majesty was still remarkably fond. Finding him fully resolved on visiting the Opera House, her Majesty invited upwards of 200 personages to a concert and cards, at Buckingham House, by which means she pre-engaged the King, who, of course, was willing to postpone his intention. Understanding that his Majesty still retained his resolution, the Queen contrived to have a party formed at York House on the very evening, and by this innocent device continued to keep his Majesty unconsciously away. It was, however, agreed by the managers of the theatres that the royal box should be exalted and defended, which tended in a great measure to sooth the Queen's apprehensions.

Among the Christmas hospitalities of this year those of the Duke of Clarence were highly praiseworthy. His Royal Highness ordered beef and bread to be distributed for two days to 170 poor families; and upwards of 100 people, four-fifths of them neighbouring tradesmen and relatives of his servants, sat down to dinner on Christmas Day, at Bushy House.

At this time the Duchess of Wirtemberg had signified to her Royal parents her wish to return to England; but was dissuaded from her purpose.

This year not only closed the 18th century but was also remarkable for the last meeting of the

British parliament, which, in consequence of the Union of England and Ireland, was afterwards styled the Imperial Parliament.

In the beginning of 1801 there were matrimonial proposals for the Princess Sophia, from, according to the report of the day, a German Prince of high consideration.

Her Majesty gave, as usual on Twelfth Day, to upwards of sixty poor families of the town and neighbourhood of Windsor, in the great kitchen at the Castle, a donation of beef and soup. In the evening her Majesty and the Princess Elizabeth gave a ball and supper at the Queen's Lodge, to the domestics of the Queen's and Lower Lodges, to which a select number of her Majesty's tradesmen and their families were invited.

The King frequently participated, with Lord Chesterfield, Colonel Gwynn, and other sportsmen, in the diversion of hunting: in February his Majesty had a severe cold, and a consequent fever, which prevented the Royal Family from going to the Concert of Ancient Music.

The Duchess of York had been obliged to go to Bath for her health, where it considerably improved, and her Royal Highness frequently visited the various theatrical and musical entertainments there.

The Queen held a drawing-room at St. James's palace, March the 26th, being the first court day since his Majesty's recovery, and a numerous company of nobility and gentry assembled to con-

gratulate the Queen on this joyful occasion. His Majesty was not present.

On April the 21st their Majesties and the Princesses went to Kew Palace. The King took a daily airing in the gardens. The Royal Family returned to London, May the 29th, and the King, by the advice of his physicians, went to Weymouth, where warm baths were prepared. The Royal Family frequently visited the theatre there. The first royal excursion by water was the most splendid ever witnessed in Weymouth. The Charlotte yacht was magnificently fitted up for the reception of the King, Queen, and five Princesses, with numerous attendants: Sir H. Neale, commander. The Queen's band of Germans played to them a great part of the morning, and then her Majesty and the Princesses amused the King by singing various English and Italian duets and trios, accompanied on the piano forte by Sir W. Parsons. The Queen and all the ladies dined with the King in the state apartment, and the gentlemen in a superb cabin underneath them, where Sir H. Neale did the honours. The absence of the Princess Sophia of Gloucester was occasioned by her having heard that morning of the death of her sister, Lady Horatio Seymour.

There was a new arrangement at the Lodge this year: the equerries no longer dined with the Royal Family, but had a table to themselves, the ladies being only admitted to that honour. On account of the high price of provisions, and the

scarcity of corn, his Majesty, by way of setting a good example to his subjects, abolished second courses.

On the 14th of June the King, Queen, and Princesses made an excursion to Windsor, and partook of an elegant entertainment provided by the Duke of Cumberland, at Cumberland Lodge. The Royal Family then returned to Weymouth, where the Prince of Wales was to have been also, and the necessary preparations were made for his journey, but on coming out of the house his Royal Highness made a false step, which threw him on his back, and bruised the spinal bone. Mr. Keate the surgeon was sent for from London: the recovery of his Royal Highness, though he suffered excessive pain, was rapid.

During their Majesties' stay at Weymouth the Queen gave a splendid fete at Radipole, and employed Mr. W. Penley of the Weymouth theatre, to assist in the decorations. Being much pleased with one of Mr. Penley's children, her Majesty took the little boy under her protection, placed him at a school in Sherborne, till he attained his 17th year, and then gave the youth a commission in the army, with 300 guineas to fit him out, which sum was paid for him by Colonel Desbrow. At the above-mentioned fete Mr. Penley, seated on an ass, spoke a comic address, and the last time their Majesties went this season to the Weymouth theatre to see the "Critic" and "Blue-beard," Mr. Penley repeated the address between the play and

entertainment. Their Majesties and suite returned to Windsor, October the 3rd.

There was not the least symptom of disorder when his Majesty went to open the Imperial Parliament. The Queen and Princesses partook of an elegant *déjeune* at the Countess of Harrington's, where the Royal party saw the procession. The Queen had the Princess Charlotte of Wales on her knee the whole time, who appeared highly pleased with the sight. At four o'clock the King and Queen set off in their chaise to Kew, accompanied by their little grand-daughter.

A short-lived peace with the French Republic having been ratified, the Queen held a court, December the 17th, when Monsieur Otto was presented to her Majesty as Minister Plenipotentiary from the Republic of France. Madame Otto was not at court, owing to indisposition. The next morning the Queen gave a grand breakfast at Buckingham House, at which the Princess of Wales, with several branches of the Royal Family and the Princess of Orange, were present.

During the winter season the Royal Family came to town every Tuesday, and remained at the Queen's House till Friday. Every fortnight the Queen had a drawing-room, and on the alternate Thursdays their Majesties either visited places of entertainment or had parties. The proposals of marriage for the Princess Sophia were not accepted.

As the King came to town from Windsor to

Buckingham House, February the 12th, 1802, a poor woman, a soldier's wife, dropped down in a fit, with an infant child: the circumstance having been communicated to Princess Sophia of Gloucester, who passed by at the same time, her Royal Highness made an enquiry of the woman's circumstances, sent her half a guinea, and ordered every necessary care to be taken of her at her Royal Highness's expense.

The Queen held a splendid Court on the anniversary of his Majesty's birth-day this year, which was numerously attended, and which for grandeur and brilliancy exceeded any assemblage of noble and august personages that ever graced the Royal presence. There was no ball in the evening. Her Majesty gave an elegant concert at her house in St. James's Park to a select company. Mrs. Billington's talents were on this occasion exerted to gratify the Royal party.

The Queen gave a grand rural fete at Frogmore, June the 14th; detached dramas, pantomimic scenes, musical quartettos, &c. were prepared for this occasion under the management of Princess Elizabeth, in which the principal comic performers of both theatres assisted.

The peace with Buonaparte, or rather the truce, expired in 1803. Considerable preparations having been made in the ports of France and Holland, his Majesty made a communication on the subject to both Houses of Parliament, March the 8th, and two days afterwards a second message imported

the necessity of calling out and embodying the militia, or such part thereof as his Majesty might deem expedient. A long and protracted correspondence had been carried on between the courts of Paris and London relative to Malta, the emigrant princes, &c.: and an interview having taken place between Lord Whitworth and the Chief Consul, the British Ambassador set out on his return, and on the 18th of May government published a declaration of their causes of complaint against France, which was soon followed by the issuing of letters of marque and reprisals.

The renewal of hostilities occasioned much disaffection, particularly in Ireland. Dublin became a scene of anarchy and confusion in July. Lord Kilwarden, Lord Chief Justice of the King's Bench, arrived from his country house, accompanied by his daughter, Miss Wolfe, and his nephew a young clergyman: his lordship and his nephew were dragged from their carriage, and pierced with innumerable wounds; while Miss Wolfe escaped on foot, and fled to the castle to relate the catastrophe. This rebellion was happily crushed with astonishing facility, and the chief leaders, particularly Mr. Emmet, were executed.

Colonel Despard and twelve others were apprehended in London, for a conspiracy to murder the King as he returned from Parliament at the opening of the session; while other parties were to seize the Tower and the Bank, to destroy the telegraph, and stop the mail coaches, which was

to be a signal to the disaffected in the country to march to their assistance. Colonel Despard was brought up for trial before a special commission, at the New Sessions' House, Southwark, and after an eloquent defence of his counsel, setting forth the romantic improbability of such a conspiracy, and honourable testimonies of his former conduct in the army by Lord Nelson, Sir Alured Clark, and Sir Evan Nepean, he was found guilty. Nine of the other conspirators were also found guilty; Lord Nelson solicited his Majesty's pardon, in vain, for Colonel Despard, who, in his military career, had performed some brilliant exploits, and had been regarded as a meritorious officer. This unfortunate man was executed with six of his associates, three having been forgiven.

The month of May, 1804, was marked by another change of the British Ministry. Mr. Addington having resigned, Mr. Pitt was appointed to resume his former office, from which he retired shortly previous to the peace with the French Republic. Many reports had been circulated respecting a coalition between Mr. Pitt, Mr. Fox, Lord Grenville, &c. but the result proved otherwise, and the reinstated minister met with a most vigorous opposition from the minority.

On the 14th of December the Spanish declaration of war against his Britannic Majesty was published at Madrid, and on the 11th of January, 1805, letters of marque and reprisal were issued out against Spain.

Mr. Whitbread having brought forward a motion in the House of Commons, April the 8th, against Lord Melville, as having connived at a gross misapplication of the public money by his agent, Mr. Trotter, Mr. Pitt, two days afterwards, announced the resignation of the accused as first Lord of the Admiralty. A motion for Lord Melville's impeachment was carried in the House of Commons, June the 25th.

The 23d of January, 1806, was marked by the demise of the Right Hon. William Pitt, in consequence of extreme debility, brought on by excessive anxiety and unremitting attention to business. The unfortunate issue of the war on the continent was supposed to have accelerated his dissolution. The House of Commons decreed him a public funeral, which was accordingly solemnized in Westminster Abbey, February the 22d.

An entire change now took place in the ministry, of which Lord Grenville became the head. Lord Henry Petty filled the vacant office of Mr. Pitt, as Chancellor of the Exchequer; the Right Hon. Thomas Lord Erskine was appointed Lord High Chancellor of Great Britain, and the Right Hon. C. J. Fox took the place of Lord Mulgrave, as one of his Majesty's principal Secretaries of State.

The ceremonial of the trial of Lord Melville commenced in Westminster Hall, April the 29th, when Mr. Whitbread addressed the peers in a most nervous and eloquent speech of three hours and three quarters. However, on the 17th day of trial,

the Noble Viscount was honourably acquitted. The Dukes of York, Cumberland, Cambridge, and Gloucester generally voted—not guilty, and the Dukes of Clarence, Kent, and Sussex—guilty.

The severe indisposition of Mr. Fox, which had for sometime precluded his attention to business, terminated in his dissolution, September the 13th, and, on the 10th of October, his remains were conveyed with great pomp and solemnity to Westminster Abbey, where they were deposited within eighteen inches of the grave of William Pitt, and immediately adjoining the monument of Lord Chatham.

The bill, commonly called the Catholic Bill, having for its object the emancipation of papists from their present inability to hold places of trust, &c. in the British government, had been brought into parliament by the then ministers, although they were perfectly aware that his Majesty, from a conscientious adherence to his coronation oath and the established religion of his church, would never consent to its passing into a law. His Majesty, therefore, now demanded a solemn pledge of his ministers, that in case of their continuing in office they should make no new attempt of a similar nature. This demand was peremptorily rejected; and the King dismissed his ministers and placed at the head of the new administration the Duke of Portland, as first Lord of the Treasury; the Right Hon. Spencer Perceval, as Chancellor

of the Exchequer, and Lord Eldon as Lord Chancellor. The abolition of the slave-trade, that nefarious and abominable traffic which had so long been a disgrace to a free country, took place this year, at which the Queen and Princesses expressed great satisfaction.

Though her Majesty's birth-day was celebrated as usual at the beginning of the year, yet, in May, 1807, it was observed in a private manner at Windsor, by the assembling of most of the Royal Family to congratulate her Majesty on the occasion. The Princess Elizabeth's birth-day was kept at Windsor in the same manner.

His Majesty's birth-day was also celebrated with great splendour, though the court was deprived of the presence of the King. There having been but few courts held this year the concourse of people was very great. About half past twelve o'clock her Majesty and the Princesses left the Queen's Palace, with the Princess Charlotte of Wales, in her Majesty's carriage, for St. James's, in their morning dresses, and entered the Palace by the garden-gate, where there was an immense crowd to see them. After her Majesty and the Princesses had taken refreshments they put on their court dresses. His Grace the Archbishop of Canterbury was then introduced to her Majesty, and he delivered a congratulatory oration in English on the happy return of the day. Her Majesty and the Princesses proceeded towards the grand council chamber soon after two o'clock, through

the grand suite of rooms in the palace, and notice having been given of the Queen's approach the centre door was instantaneously thrown open. The Princesses ranged themselves to the left of her Majesty towards the throne. The Prince of Wales entered immediately after, paid his respects to her Majesty, and remained in private conversation with her for about five minutes. At three o'clock the Princess of Wales entered the palace by the garden-gate : as her Royal Highness passed through the presence chamber and other rooms, where the spectators were assembled, they received her with clapping of hands, and on her return from the drawing-room the same mark of respect was shewn, although not the strict etiquette of a palace. Upon her Royal Highness's entrance into the drawing-room she paid her respects to the Queen, after which she conversed with her Royal consort, then with the Princesses, and several of the company. Her Majesty received the numerous introductions in the usual manner; and continued to entertain the company with the greatest affability till near five o'clock, when she appeared much fatigued with the ceremonies of the day and retired. There were present, besides her Majesty, all the younger branches of the Royal Family, and the most distinguished nobility and gentry of the country.

His Majesty's sight was at this time much impaired, notwithstanding which he held private levees. The perception of the eye, or the sense

of seeing, had almost entirely disappeared in both of the optic nerves. The most eminent of the faculty had frequent consultations on the subject of performing an operation, and couching on the right eye was at length deemed expedient, which was attended with some temporary success. Their Majesties did not go to Weymouth this year as they intended.

The Clyde frigate, which brought over the Duchess of Brunswick, arrived off Gravesend, July the 6th. The Duchess landed the next morning at 10 o'clock, and went immediately to the New Tavern, where every preparation was made for the reception of this august Princess. The volunteer artillery and the light infantry volunteers were out, to shew all possible respect to her Royal Highness. The mayor and corporation received the venerable Princess with all due form, and deeply sensible of these demonstrations of regard her Royal Highness quitted the place in the Princess of Wales's carriage, with her attendants, for Blackheath.

On the 8th, about 12 o'clock, the Princess Charlotte of Wales, attended by Lady de Clifford, left her house in Warwick Street, in her carriage and four, upon a visit to her Royal mother, and to pay her respects to the Duchess of Brunswick, her grand-mother. In the evening the Princess Charlotte returned to Warwick House.

On the 9th, his Majesty left Windsor at ten o'clock in the morning, in his travelling carriage,

for Blackheath, on a visit to his Royal Sister and the Princess of Wales. His Majesty arrived at the Princess's house about one o'clock; and on alighting from his carriage he was received by the Duchess and the Princess. The meeting between the King and his Sister was very affecting. His Majesty partook of an early dinner, and set off on his return to Windsor about five o'clock. The petition of her Royal Highness the Duchess of Brunswick was now increased from 5000*l.* to 10,000*l.* a year.

Agreeable to a message from the King it was agreed by the Imperial Parliament "that his Majesty should be enabled to settle Frogmore, with some appendages, on the Queen, during her own life and the lives of the Princesses, her daughters."

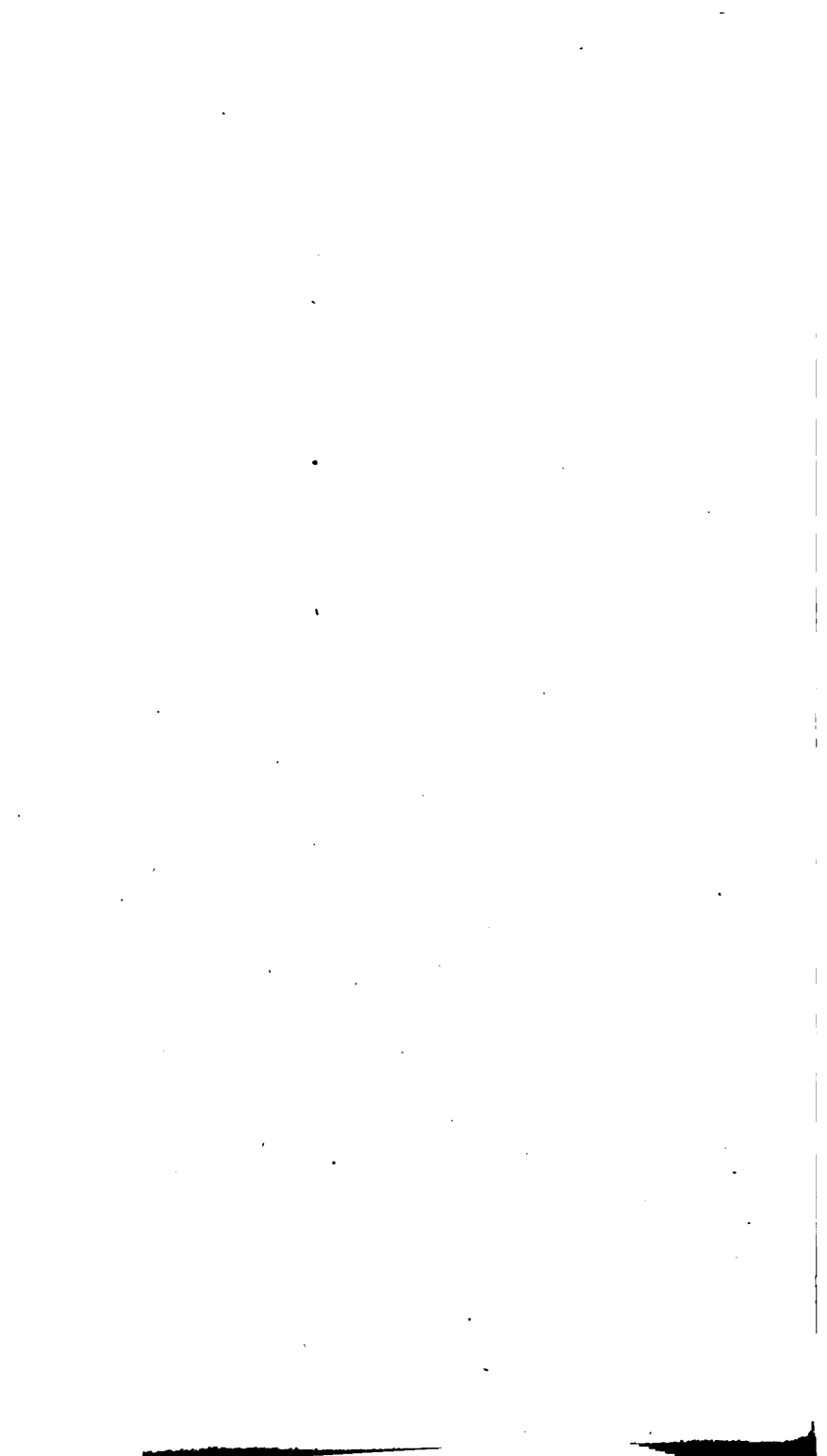
On the 22d, about 12 o'clock, their Majesties and the Princesses arrived at the Queen's Palace from Windsor. The Dukes of Kent and Cambridge soon after paid their respects to their Majesties. After the Royal Family had taken some refreshment, her Majesty, the Princesses, and the Duke of Cambridge set off in their carriages for Blackheath, to dine with the Duchess of Brunswick and Princess of Wales.

The Princess Charlotte of Wales left town in her travelling carriage and four for Worthing, (where she was to remain six weeks,) attended by Lady de Clifford, governess, and Mrs. Udney, her sub-governess. A house had been taken in Wor-

thing for her Royal Highness, very near the sea, and his Majesty, to cover the expences, presented her with 1000*l*. Her Royal Highness's principal exercise was riding on an ass in the pleasure-grounds and fields attached to the premises, which generally attracted the curiosity of the inhabitants, visitors, and travellers from London to Brighton, and her Royal Highness frequently rode close to the paling to gratify their curiosity, and very pleasantly conversed with them. Two attendants followed her Royal Highness to beat the ass, which afforded considerable amusement.

On Sunday evening, August the 2nd, their Majesties and the Princesses walked on Windsor Terrace, which was much crowded, but not so genteelly attended as usual: many were turned off for intoxication. The Marquis of Thomond, who was walking near their Majesties, seeing a person not uncovered, while the King was passing, stepped up to him and took his hat off; upon which he struck the marquis and kicked him. He was immediately secured and kept in custody till their Majesties went off the Terrace, when he was examined before Colonel Desbrow. The man said that he had taken his hat off while his Majesty passed, and did not put it on again until his Majesty had retired about ten paces. He was set at liberty with a reprimand.

His Majesty was always attached to Windsor Palace, which, for salubrity of air and grandeur





WINDSOR CASTLE.
Taken from the Thames.

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of Macclesfield, with a visit this year; where they were sumptuously entertained.

The Countess of Craven's appearance at court at her Majesty's drawing-room, May the 12th, excited much curiosity. She went in a new chair, attended by two footmen in new white liveries. The Queen received her in the most condescending manner. The whole of the noble earl's relatives were present on the occasion.

Her Majesty's birth-day was again celebrated this year in a private manner, by the assembling of the whole of the Royal Family, and a select party of friends, at Windsor. The Duke and Duchess of York, the Dukes of Cumberland, Kent, Sussex, and Cambridge, Lords Somerville, and St. Helens, Mr. Buckley and lady, Generals Garth, Gwynne, Harcourt, Fitzroy, and Dakin, arrived at an early hour. His Majesty, the Royal Dukes, Princesses Augusta, Sophia, and Amelia, accompanied by the lords and gentlemen, rode on horseback, in Windsor Park, till 12 o'clock. The Royal Dukes and Princesses then went to Frogmore to meet the Queen and Princesses Elizabeth and Mary: they remained there till past three, and then returned to the Palace to dinner at four o'clock, where the Prince, the Princess and Princess Charlotte of Wales, and Duke of Clarence, had arrived.

The Royal Family visited the British Museum on the 3d of June. The Queen, the Prince of

Wales, the Dukes of Cumberland and Cambridge, and the Princesses arrived in three carriages, a little before one o'clock. They were received by the Archbishop of Canterbury, the Lord Chancellor, the Earls of Dartmouth and Aylesford, Lord St. Helens, the Speaker of the House of Commons, Sirs J. Banks and W. Scott, Mr. Planta, the librarian, and several others, who conducted the Royal Family to a new wing added to the building, and showed them the curiosities, with which they appeared highly amused : it was twenty years since her Majesty had been there. The Royal party partook of some refreshments, and left the Museum at three o'clock.

The drawing-room on the King's birth-day was well attended, but his Majesty was not present.

The King still held his private levees, enjoyed good health, and generally appeared cheerful. Every fine Sunday evening he continued to gratify the loyal crowds, who resorted to Windsor, with his presence on the terrace. The mornings of the Royal Family were generally spent on horseback in the Park, and the rest of the day was usually filled up in a calm domestic way, enlivened by such little plans of entertainment as were suggested by the taste of the Princesses. On the 10th of August her Royal Highness the Princess Elizabeth gave a splendid fete at her charming little cottage near Old Windsor, to her Majesty and her Royal sisters, to which about one hundred and twenty of the neighbouring nobility and gentry were invited.

Her Royal Highness, with her accustomed attention to gratify the juvenile part of her company, had prepared a rustic fair on the lawn, where booths were erected, and furnished with toys and trinkets of all kinds, selected by her own taste, and adapted for the youthful minds to which they were presented. Midst this assemblage of royalty, rank, and fashion, the charms of music were called in to aid the general effect: the bands played a number of martial tunes on the lawn. A rapid transition from those warlike strains to the dulcet notes of softer melody, and of the merry dance, prompted the younger branches to enliven the scene by featly tripping it away on the green sward, until more substantial amusement called their attention to the internal regulations of four superb marquees, amply supplied with every delicacy. At three the company sat down, and enjoyed the festive scene till seven, when her Majesty and the Princesses returned to the Castle.

A grand fete was given at Oatlands by the Duchess of York, in honour of her Royal husband's birth-day, to their Majesties, the Royal Family, and a splendid assemblage of rank and fashion. At half-past twelve their Majesties and the Princesses arrived, and were received at the grand entrance by the Royal host and hostess, accompanied by the Prince of Wales. The Royal party immediately rambled into the park, where two marquees were pitched on the lawn; in one was a military band, playing martial and appropriate

airs; in the other, to which their Majesties were led, was a joyous party of fifty orphan children, supported under the patronage of her Royal Highness, regaling on a comfortable dinner, provided for them by their kind patroness. The King and Queen were highly delighted with the scene, and also the children with the affable attentions of the Royal party. Their Majesties having partaken of an early dinner, returned to Windsor, but the remaining party staid till a late hour.

The next day the Queen gave a dinner at Frogmore, with splendid accompaniments, to a large party of the nobility and gentry. This fete was also under the direction of the Princess Elizabeth. All the Royal brothers were there, and at three they sat down to dinner with her Majesty in a large Chinese tent on the lawn, the rest of the company being entertained in the same style in surrounding marquees. The bands of the Blues and Staffordshire played during the repast, and the Pandæans from Vauxhall being introduced after dinner, the juvenile part of the company were gratified by a rustic ball. His Majesty having arrived from town in the evening, joined the festive party, and participated in the general cheer.

November the 23d, the Queen and the Princesses honoured Lady Charlotte Finch with a morning visit at her apartments in St. James's Palace. At half-past three o'clock, her Majesty, the Princess Charlotte of Wales, the Dukes of York, Clarence, Kent, Cumberland, and Sussex, dined with the

Duke of Cambridge at his apartments in St. James's Palace.

Jerome Buonaparte, brother of Napoleon, Emperor of France, was married this year to Frederica Catherine of Wirtemberg, and thus became allied to their Majesties' eldest daughter, now the Queen of Wirtemberg.

In 1809, Colonel Wardle, almost a new character, without political connections, appeared in the House of Commons, the public accuser of his Royal Highness the Duke of York, as Commander-in-Chief, for the improper sale of commissions. The elevated character of the accused gave a solemnity to the investigation, which it would not perhaps have acquired in any other place than in the great council of the nation, assembled in its judicial capacity. To support these charges, Mrs. Clarke, a discarded mistress of the Duke, at this time said to be kept by Colonel Wardle, was produced as the principal, and indeed almost (we may add) the only witness. His Royal Highness very properly gave way to the voice of popular clamour, and resigned his situation as commander-in-chief.

The happy event of his Majesty's entrance into the fiftieth year of his reign—an event which had occurred only twice before in English history, was celebrated by a jubilee, October the 25th. The day was one of the finest imaginable for the season, and favoured the public expressions of satisfaction in the highest degree. The illuminations of London

were very grand. The whole of Kew was also illuminated. A grand gothic arch was erected, from the centre of which a star of vast dimensions was suspended, and underneath a medallion of his Majesty, (a very correct likeness,) with the motto—" Virtue, Honour, and Glory."

The inhabitants of Windsor manifested their loyalty on this occasion in the most conspicuous manner. On the 24th, an ox was given by Cornet Fenwick, of the Royal Blues, to be roasted whole in Bachelor's Acre, and which was exultingly carried through the town, together with two fat sheep, given by Messrs. Bannister and Adams, his Majesty's butchers, to be also roasted whole in the same place. The Bachelors of Windsor, bearing white wands, escorted them through the town, followed by a considerable portion of the populace, with loud acclamations. The procession arrived in Bachelors' Acre about dusk, when the ox was immediately put down, and every thing prepared for roasting the sheep. At two o'clock the next morning the fire was lighted, and the ox began to turn on the spit, to the great delight of the spectators, a great number having assembled at that early hour. At nine the sheep were put to the fire, on each side of the ox. At ten the Windsor volunteers, and the mayor and corporation, went to church in procession: shortly after his Majesty took a ride in the park, and down the long walk, attended by several of the Royal Dukes.

Mr. Turnerelli presented his jubilee bust of the

King to the Queen, at the castle. He afterwards waited on her Majesty at Frogmore, by appointment, to place the bust in a conspicuous situation. The likeness was excellent, and greatly approved of by the Queen, the Princess Elizabeth, the Duke of Sussex, and others of the Royal Family.

At one the ox and sheep were taken up. The bachelors had previously caused boards to be laid from the *scene of action* to a box, which had been prepared for her Majesty and the Royal Family to survey the entertainments; and they graciously accepted the invitation to view it close. Their path was lined by the Bachelors, acting as constables, to keep off the crowd. They appeared much gratified by the spectacle, walked round the apparatus, and returned to their box. Her Majesty walked with the Duke of York. The Royal party were followed by the mayor and corporation. When the animals were carved, the first slice was offered to the illustrious visitors, which was accepted. Shortly after the carving had commenced, and the pudding begun to be distributed, the efforts of the Bachelors to keep off the crowd were useless: some of the Royal Blues, on horseback, assisted in endeavouring to repel them, but in vain. The pudding was thrown to those who remained at a distance, and a hundred scrambles were seen in the same instant. The bread was distributed in a similar way, and also the meat. A considerable quantity of it was thrown to a butcher, who, elevated above the crowd, catching large pieces in

one hand, and holding a knife in the other, cut smaller pieces off, and let them fall into the hands of those beneath, who were on the alert to catch them.

The Queen was attended by the Dukes of York, Clarence, and Sussex, and the Princesses Augusta, Elizabeth, and Sophia. The Princesses and the nobility wore blue ribbons, inscribed—"The 50th year, may God bless him who blesseth us."

On this occasion the Queen gave a superb fete at Frogmore. At half-past nine o'clock the gates were thrown open for the nobility, gentry, and others, having tickets of admission. On the entrance into the gardens, the spectator was struck with astonishment and delight at the charming and fanciful scene of variegated lamps, of different figures and colours. The avenues and walks were hung with brilliant coloured lamps, in the shape of watchmen's lanterns. The lawns adjoining to the house afforded a rich display of the choicest shrubs and plants taken from the green-house. At 10 o'clock the Queen arrived, and after her Majesty had joined the company the fire-works began, at the conclusion of which there suddenly appeared on the beautiful piece of water opposite the garden front of the house, two triumphal cars, drawn by two sea-horses each, one occupied by Neptune, and preceded by the other with a band of music. The cars had a very superb appearance. On coming to the temporary bridge, erected over the canal, opposite the garden front, transparencies

were displayed in an equally sudden and unexpected manner on the battlements, with the words —“ Rule Britannia—Britannia rules the waves” inscribed on them. At the same moment the band struck up the tune. Opposite the bridge an elegant Grecian temple was erected on a mount, surrounded by eight beautiful marble pillars: The interior of the temple was lined with purple, and in the centre was a large transparency of the Eye of Providence, fixed, as it were, upon a beautiful portrait of his Majesty, surmounted by stars of lamps. From the temple a double stair-case descended to the water's edge. On the windings of the staircase were nine altars with burning incense. On the lawn twelve marquees were erected, where the company partook of tea and coffee during the fireworks. Covers were laid in the principal dining-rooms, and at 12 o'clock the company sat down to an elegant supper, consisting of all the delicacies of the season. The frames were beautifully done in emblematic figures, part of which represented Britannia kneeling by the lion, the Eye of Providence above, and underneath was written by her Royal Highness the Princess Elizabeth “ Britannia, grateful to Providence, celebrates the 50th year of a reign sacred to Piety and Virtue.”

Her Majesty and the branches of the Royal Family present, retired at half past one, when the company began to depart. Among the visitors were the Earls of Uxbridge, Harcourt, and Car-

digan ; Lord St. Helens and Walsingham ; Countesses of Cardigan and Harcourt ; Ladies Cranley, Bective, &c.

On the 1st of November the corporation of the City of London proceeded to the Queen's Palace with a congratulatory Address to his Majesty upon his entering the 50th year of his reign, which was most graciously received.

January the 17th, 1810, the Persian Ambassador was presented to her Majesty at St. James's, with great ceremony. Her Majesty's carriage and six horses, with three footmen in grand liveries, conveyed his Excellency to court. The presents from the Persian court to the Queen, consisted of three boxes of jewels, several choice shawls, and a curious carpet.

The next day her Majesty held a drawing-room, as usual on the celebration of her birth-day, to receive the congratulations of the nobility and persons of distinction. Her Majesty, the Princesses Augusta, Elizabeth, Mary, and Charlotte of Wales, left the Queen's Palace about 12 o'clock, escorted by a party of the Life Guards, and proceeded to the apartments of the Duke of Cumberland in St. James's Palace, where her Majesty and the Princesses dressed, in consequence of that part of the Palace, destroyed by a recent fire, and which had been devoted to that purpose, not having been rebuilt. In the Poet Laureat's Ode for the New Year, (which was performed on the present occa-

sion in the grand council chamber) was the following allusion to the length of his Majesty's reign :

“ Though looking back through many an age
Since Egbert first our Saxon sires obey'd,
No King recorded stands on History's page
So long, who England's golden sceptre sway'd.
Oh, yet through many a rolling year
Long ! long may Albion's joyful race,
Behold a crown, to Freedom sacred, grace
The man they love—the Sovereign they revere !”

The Princess Charlotte of Wales remained in the Duke of Cumberland's apartments till about half past three. The Princess of Wales was at court, but the Prince was not. In the evening their Majesties had a select party to tea and cards.

In consequence of a message from the King a pension to his Majesty's nephew of 7000*l.* per annum was agreed to by the House of Commons. As the sum of 10,000*l.* per annum had been voted about two years before for the Duchess of Brunswick, the present pension occasioned some debate. Mr. Tierney thought the Droits of the Admiralty were sufficient to defray those expenses without burthening the country with additional pensions. Mr. Perceval observed that his Majesty had given large sums out of those Droits of Admiralty for the service of the country. From the account of the Droits laid before Parliament, it appeared that the net proceeds from 1793 amounted to 7,344,990*l.*

arising chiefly from Spanish, Danish, and Dutch seizures. Out of this sum 3,032,990*l.* had been paid for captures, &c. ; 2,553,261*l.* had been appropriated to the public service ; upwards of 100,000*l.* for special services, and 171,500*l.* bestowed in gifts to various branches of the Royal Family, viz.

1805, Oct. 14.	Princess of Wales	£.26,000
	Duke of Cumberland	15,000
	Duke of Kent - - -	10,000
Nov. 21.	Duke of Gloucester -	19,500
1806, April 8.	Duke of Kent - - -	10,000
	Duke of Cambridge -	20,000
	Duke of Sussex - -	20,000
	Duke of Cumberland -	5,000
	Duke of Clarence -	20,000
July 14.	Duke of Kent - - -	6,000
	Duke of York - - -	20,000

£.171,500

On the King's birth-day the Royal Dukes breakfasted with their Majesties at the Queen's Palace, and paid their respects to their Royal Sire on the return of the day. At noon the Queen and Princesses went to St. James's Palace to dress ; after which they proceeded to the grand council chamber, where her Majesty took her station under the throne, surrounded by the Princesses, Dukes of Kent, Sussex, &c. The archbishop of Canterbury, in pronouncing the oration of congratulation, which concluded with a wish that his Majesty might live long to dispense blessings amongst his people, ap-

peared much affected ; and her Majesty and the Princess Elizabeth shed tears. There were present besides the Queen (who was covered with diamonds of immense value) the Princesses Augusta, Elizabeth, and Sophia, the Princess of Wales, the Duchess of York, the Princess Sophia of Gloucester, the Prince of Wales, the Dukes of York, Clarence, Kent, Cambridge, and Gloucester, the Archbishops of Canterbury and York, the Cabinet Ministers, and a numerous assemblage of nobility and persons of distinction of both sexes. His Majesty was not present, and, owing to the afflicting state of his eyes, it was feared that St. James's Palace, or any other public place, would never be honoured with his presence any more. His Majesty, notwithstanding, enjoyed excellent health, and looked very well.

Her Royal Highness Princess Amelia, though her restoration to health had been celebrated by a fete at Frogmore, did not enjoy a state of perfect convalescence. Her Royal Highness was afflicted with a sore leg, and early this year, all the Royal Family, as well as the physicians, were in constant attendance on the Princess, at Windsor. Her Royal Highness's health had been in the most melancholy state ever since the Jubilee. It was thought about the latter end of summer that she was rapidly mending, but these hopes proved fallacious early in October. Every possible precaution was taken at Windsor to prevent the Princess from being disturbed by noise. St. Alban's Street

where she was confined, was covered very thickly with straw. The Queen visited her Royal Highness every day about 12 o'clock, and repeated her visits two or three times a day. The King, after partaking of his early dinner, soon after one o'clock, went in his carriage to visit her. On the 10th his Majesty experienced a very distressing circumstance: on his entering the house he met a clergyman, the object of whose visit he knew must have been to administer the sacrament to her Royal Highness, which affected his Majesty so much while conversing with the clergyman, that he could scarcely proceed into the house. The Doctors had agreed that morning that it was not probable that her Royal Highness would survive 24 hours, and had given permission for her to eat and drink whatever she fancied. Her Royal Highness expressed a wish to have some porter, and she accordingly had a glass of bottled porter, which appeared to refresh her very much, and she had a gentle sleep afterwards. The flattering hope that her Royal Highness had been rapidly mending had been occasioned by the application of some strong poultices to her feet, from which she appeared to experience considerable relief. All her Royal brothers and sisters frequently visited her. On the 12th the bulletin stated that her Royal Highness had a comfortable night and was much better. The lively interest which his Majesty felt in these vicissitudes was observed to have an alarming influence upon his feelings. Soon after, the King

received from his physicians the afflicting report that the Princess might be no more in an hour, or that she might languish for many days; but they felt it their duty to apprise his Majesty of the imminent danger in which she then was. From that time the King's agitation was manifest. He passed some days in excessive grief, and some days, according to the gleams of hope, was equally elevated by expectation. He at times kept the physicians with him, when they made their report, two or three hours, in minute enquiries: he was accustomed to receive reports every morning at seven o'clock, and afterwards every two hours in the day. At three o'clock he was regularly at the lodge to visit her.

Her Royal Highness had given orders to Mr. Rundell to prepare a ring for his Majesty, which she wished to have immediately, as she now became sensible of her approaching dissolution. It was 12 o'clock before Mr. Rundell left her Royal Highness, and he undertook to be back from London before three o'clock the following day. One of Mr. Rundell's men knocked up a Frenchman (Lebarre) at two o'clock in the morning, to do the principal part of the ring. The jeweller brought the ring to her Royal Highness at a quarter before three, so that there was plenty of time before the King went to visit the Princess. On his Majesty's approaching the bed of the Princess, he put out his hand to take hold of hers as was his daily custom, and her Royal Highness at that time put the ring on his

finger, without saying any thing, which agitated him very much. The inscription was her Royal Highness's name, and the words "Remember me." A lock of her Royal Highness's hair was worked into the ring.

This long afflicted Princess was released from her protracted sufferings on the 3rd of November, and on the 13th her remains were interred in St. George's chapel. A solemn silence pervaded Windsor during the whole of the day. Between the hours of six and eight in the evening a great many carriages drew up at the private entrance to St. George's chapel. The principal mourners came in these, and among them several of the Royal Dukes. At eight the procession moved from Augusta Lodge. The servants of the Royal Family came first on foot ; after them, four trumpeters on white horses appeared slowly advancing, playing at the same time " the Dead March in Saul." They were followed by a detachment of the Royal Blues, to which succeeded the Body, in a plain hearse, drawn by eight horses. The hearse was followed by a carriage, in which were the Prince of Wales and Duke of Cambridge. The second carriage contained the Countess of Chesterfield (chief mourner) and her attendants. The carriages of the Prince of Wales and the Duke of Cambridge, each drawn by six horses, followed and closed the cavalcade.

The procession moved slowly to the south entrance of St. George's chapel. A temporary porch

had been there erected, lined with black cloth. Eight yeomen, who walked by the side of the hearse, took out the coffin and bore it on their shoulders into the chapel. The grooms, trumpeters, and servants filed off at the outer door, and the body was received by the pages of the Royal Family, the dean, prebendary, and the choir.

The anthem concluded, the funeral service was read by the Dean of Windsor, from the sufferance stall. An appropriate Dirge was then sung, and the body was deposited in a temporary vault, where it remained till Cardinal Wolsey's chapel was finished.

Nothing could be more awfully impressive than the whole of this melancholy spectacle. The grief so naturally felt for an amiable Princess thus prematurely snatched away, seemed redoubled at that moment, which was to consign her remains to moulder in the tomb, while the mournful office of rendering "dust to dust" was performing: the pensive air of sorrow, and the sympathising tear, wherever the eye was turned, presented themselves to view. The anxiety of the public to witness the performance of the sad rites caused a considerable number of persons to assemble at the door of the chapel, between four and five in the afternoon. The door was thrown open to those who had obtained tickets at about six, and the north aisle was immediately filled. The whole was over by eleven o'clock, when the procession returned as it went.

The Queen was exceedingly affected by the

death of the Princess Amelia. The Princes Octavius and Alfred had died in their infancy; but the loss of a Princess, who had attained the age of 27 years, was of a more serious nature. The King's agitation became alarming; the deceased Princess was his favourite daughter, as before intimated, and the affecting incident of the ring, put upon his Majesty's finger by the dying object of his tenderness, completed the shock his nature had received. The gentleman whose duty it was to be near his Royal person, felt it necessary to communicate to Mr. Perceval the obvious alteration that had taken place in his Majesty's speech and deportment. On the 25th of October this became more manifest, and the next day it was so alarming that a council was held: the Lord Chancellor was sent for; Dr. Heberden was directed to attend, and orders were given that the physicians and medical attendants only should have access to the royal apartments. On the 29th Lord Eldon and Mr. Perceval had a long audience of the Queen, and afterwards received the opinion of the physicians, who all concurred in declaring that the fever might speedily subside, but in his present state they did not consider his Majesty to be able to attend to business. Upon this report the Ministers felt it to be inconsistent with their responsibility to submit to his Majesty, for the sign manual, the commission for the prorogation of Parliament; and without such sign manual the Lord Chancellor knew that he could not put to it the Great Seal.

In this melancholy suspension of the executive power, messengers were dispatched for the immediate attendance in London of all the great officers of state, the Archbishop of Canterbury, the Marquis of Wellesley, the president of the council, &c. and the first bulletin was issued, which was sent in every direction to the friends of administration.

On the 30th another council was held, and the report of the physicians having been that the fever had not abated, circular letters were sent, requesting the attendance of members in town for the meeting of the two Houses, November the 3rd, as it was found to be improbable that the further prorogation could take place. On that morning another council was held, and Lord Eldon, Mr. Perceval, the Marquis Wellesley, Mr. Ryder, and other members of the cabinet, went to Windsor, to examine the physicians and determine from the state of his Majesty's health, whether it would be proper to take his pleasure on the important document which had been prepared according to his previous command. They unfortunately found this to be impossible, by the continuance of the disorder, though his Majesty had passed a better night, and the symptoms were more flattering. They accordingly returned to town, and an adjournment to November the 15th was moved in both Houses; on that day a call of the house was ordered, and in the interim, the Speaker was directed to write a circular letter to all sheriffs of counties, stewards of towns and boroughs, to acquaint their representatives thereof.

The death of the Princess Amelia had been announced to his Majesty on the 4th, or rather he anticipated the information; for when Sir H. Halford entered his chamber, and was beginning a conversation leading to the point, his Majesty said to him—"I find by your manner that my poor girl is no more—I am prepared for the event—she is happy." Several hours after, his Majesty returned to the subject, enquired if it was not so, and spoke of the past sufferings of his daughter, with resignation and composure. His Majesty also recognised Dr. Reynolds by the voice.

Early on the 7th, by the advice of Sir H. Halford, Drs. Reynolds, Heberden, and Baillie, and with the approbation of the Queen, the Prince and Royal Dukes, Dr. Willis was sent for by express to attend the King, and the Doctor arrived at Windsor. After he had consulted with the four doctors, and seen his Majesty, he set off in a chaise and four for London. The doctor returned to Windsor in the evening. At 12 o'clock at night, a chaise and four arrived at the castle, with two gentlemen in it. Dr. Willis called upon them, and appeared displeased that they had not made more haste to Windsor. He conducted them to the castle. Dr. Willis attended his Majesty, accompanied by the other physicians.

On the return of his Majesty's malady, which was considered to be as violent as it had been in 1788-9, a prayer was ordered to be read in all Cathedrals, Churches, &c. before the Litany, or

before the Prayer, for "all conditions of men," &c. which is still continued to be read in several churches—the Temple, Lincoln's Inn, &c.

During the momentary meeting of parliament on the 15th, his Majesty's disorder appeared to have had a singular turn for the better ; but afterwards relapsed into restlessness and fever. A further adjournment from the 15th to the 29th was, after some opposition in the House of Commons, agreed to.

On the 29th, the report of his Majesty's physicians was received in the House of Commons, and Mr. Perceval observing that there was a great *probability* of the King's recovery, proposed another adjournment for fourteen days ; declaring, that at the expiration of that period, unless such an amendment should take place in his Majesty's health, as to afford a reasonable *hope* of his *speedy recovery*, he should not consider it consistent with the public interest, farther to delay taking parliamentary steps to supply the deficiency of the executive government. After an animated debate, an adjournment to December the 13th was carried by a majority of 98.

On the meeting of both houses, a committee of 21 members each was appointed to examine the physicians, who had attended his Majesty during his illness. The examination of Dr. Reynolds by the committee of the House of Commons, on the 14th, lasted three hours. Dr. Reynolds had attended his Majesty on all the four occasions of

similar indisposition, and consequently his examination was carried to more length. Dr. Baillie, who had not attended his Majesty on any of the preceding attacks, was only half an hour under examination.

When the King's blindness first rendered him unable to read for himself any public document, or to sign it, unless the paper were put before him, and his hand guided to the particular place where the signature should appear, a person was employed as his private secretary. In addition to blindness, his Majesty was at this time afflicted with deafness, which rendered the case more deplorable. The physicians said, that they had never witnessed a case precisely like that of his Majesty's. Dr. Willis applied the term *derangement* to the King's disorder, in contradistinction to *insanity*, and thus explained himself: "I consider the King's derangement, as more allied to delirium, than insanity; whenever the irritation in his Majesty arises to a certain point, he uniformly becomes delirious. In delirium, the mind is actively employed upon past impressions, upon former objects and scenes which rapidly pass in succession before it, resembling in that case a person talking in his sleep. There is also considerable disturbance in the general constitution; great restlessness, great want of sleep, and total unconsciousness of surrounding objects. In insanity, there may be little or no disturbance, apparently, in the general constitution; the mind is occupied upon some fixed

assumed idea, to the truth of which it will pertinaciously adhere, in opposition to the plainest evidence of its falsity, and the individual is acting always upon that false impression. In insanity, also, the mind is always awake to objects which are present. Taking insanity, therefore, and delirium, as two points, I would place *derangement of mind* somewhere between them. His Majesty's illness uniformly partakes more of the delirium than of insanity."

Mr. Perceval, in the House of Commons, on December the 21st, divulged his promised ideas concerning a Regency. He was willing to confide the office to the Prince of Wales, but he would bestow the Regency, by means of a bill, instead of an address, and limit it to a short time, in the expectation of a recovery on the part of the King. His Royal Highness was to be under restrictions during the interim, though several members ingeniously argued on the propriety of his being appointed unlimited Regent. The ministers had a majority, and the Royal Dukes united in signing the following protest against their proceedings.

PROTEST.

"Sir,

"The Prince of Wales having assembled the whole of the male branches of the Royal Family, and having communicated to us the plan intended to be proposed by his Majesty's confidential servants, to the Lords and Commons, for the esta-

ishment of a restricted Regency, should the continuance of his Majesty's ever-to-be-deplored illness render it necessary, we feel it a duty we owe to his Majesty, to our country, and to ourselves, to enter our solemn protest against measures, we consider as perfectly unconstitutional, as they are contrary to, and subversive of, the principles, which seated our family upon the throne of this Realm."

(Signed)

Frederick,

William,

Edward,

Ernest,

Augustus Frederick,

Adolphus Frederick,

William Frederick.

" *Wednesday night, 12 o'clock, Dec. 19, 1810.*

Right Honourable Spencer Perceval, &c."

ANSWER.

"Mr. Perceval has the honour of acknowledging the receipt of a solemn protest, in the name of all the male branches of the Royal Family, against the measures which his Majesty's confidential servants have thought it to be their duty to communicate to his Royal Highness the Prince of Wales, as intended to be proposed to the two Houses of Parliament, for the establishment of a restricted Regency, during the continuance of his Majesty's ever-to-be-lamented indisposition; and stating that their Royal Highnesses consider these measures as perfectly unconstitutional, and con-

trary to, and subversive of, the principles which seated his Majesty's Royal Family upon the throne of this Realm.

“ Mr. Perceval has felt it to be his duty, to submit this communication without loss of time to his Majesty's servants ; and deeply as they lament, that the measure which they have thought themselves bound to propose, should appear to their Royal Highnesses to deserve a character so directly contrary to that which it has been their anxious endeavour should belong to it ; they must still, however, have the consolation of reflecting, that the principles upon which they have acted obtained the express and concurrent support of the two Houses of Parliament, in the years 1788 and 1789 : that those Houses of Parliament had the high satisfaction of receiving, by the command of his Majesty, after his Majesty's recovery, his earnest acknowledgments for the additional proofs they had given of their affectionate attachment to his person, and of their zealous concern for the honour and interests of his Crown, and the security and good government of his dominions ; and that the uninterrupted confidence that his Majesty was pleased to repose, for a long series of years, in the persons who proposed the measures, which were grounded on those principles, intitles his Majesty's servants, in their judgment, still further to conclude, that those principal measures had the sanction of his Royal approbation.”

Downing Street, Dec. 20, 1810.

Their Royal Highnesses the Duke of York, &c. &c.

In addition to the sufferings of the Royal Family this year, a most daring attempt was made upon the life of his Royal Highness the Duke of Cumberland, who was roused out of his sleep, in his apartment in St. James's Palace, by two violent blows and cuts on the head. He at first supposed a bat was beating round his head; but, a third wound convinced him of the contrary. He then leaped out of bed, and on receiving two other blows, retired to a small room adjoining his chamber; but the assassin followed, and wounded him across the thighs. His Royal Highness being unable to find his alarm bells, called Neale, his valet in waiting, who hastened to his master's assistance, and alarmed the house. Soon afterwards the Duke went to the porter's room, and ordered Neale to waken Salis, a Piedmontese valet. No answer was returned to Neale's repeated calls, and the door of the bed-room having been forced open, Salis was found lifeless on the bed, with his throat cut from ear to ear. His coat, which was folded up on a chair, was stained with blood; a pair of slippers, and the sheath of the sabre with which he had attacked his master, were found in a closet adjoining the Duke's chamber, and the blood left by his arm on one side of the narrow door, discovered the way by which he had escaped. It seems that the wretch having failed in his execrable design, had retired on the first alarm, and terminated his own existence. Fortunately, though the Duke had received six different wounds, none

of them proved mortal ; but his Royal Highness was confined for some time.

A committee from each house held a conference in the Painted Chamber, July 14, 1811, when the committee from the House of Lords communicated the Resolution, for authorising the Lord Chancellor to put the great seal to a commission for opening the Parliament, agreed to by their lordships on the 4th, to the Committee on the part of the Commons, at the same time desiring their concurrence with the same. The House of Lords having been informed the next day that the Commons had agreed to the resolution, and the Speaker, attended by a considerable number of the members, appearing at the bar, the Lord Chancellor read the speech, which was to the following tendency :

“ My Lords and Gentlemen,

Acting by virtue of the authority given to us by his Majesty's commission under the Great Seal, and which has been now read, amongst other things, to declare the causes of your present meeting, we have only at present to discharge our duty, by calling your attention to the afflicting circumstances of his Majesty's indisposition, and to make provision for the case of his Majesty's sacred person, for the maintenance of the royal dignity, and for the exercise of the royal authority during the continuance of this calamity, in such manner, and to such extent, as the exigencies of the case may require.”

The Regency bill became afterwards the sub-

ject of much debate, of which the following were the principal heads:—

The Prince of Wales to exercise the Royal authority, subject to restrictions—Present appointment to remain until the Regent declare to the contrary.—Upon his Majesty's recovery and declaration to resume his authority this act to cease, and no act done under it afterwards to be valid.—Any acts, orders, appointments, &c. previously made or done under it to remain until countermanded by his Majesty—No act of the Regent to be valid unless done in the name of his Majesty, and according to the provisions of the act.—Regent to take oath to administer the law according to the act.—Regent to be deemed a person holding an office in trust, and to take the oath, and make the declaration relating to such persons before the Privy Council.—Regent to be restrained from granting peerages, *or summoning heirs-apparent, or appointing to titles in abeyance until after a given time*—Regent to be restrained from granting offices in reversion, or for longer period than during pleasure, except those which are by law granted for life, or during good behaviour; and except pensions, to chancellors, judges, &c.—Regent not to be empowered to give the Royal assent to any bill, or to repeal any bill for varying the order and course of succession to the crown—Regent to reside in the United Kingdom, and not to marry a papist.—Care of his Majesty's person and appointment of a suitable part of his house—

hold to be vested in her Majesty.—Her Majesty to be assisted by a Council. — Her Majesty's Council to appear some day in April next, and on the first day of every third month after, and declare the state of his Majesty's health; a copy of which shall be transmitted to the President of the Privy Council, and published in the London Gazette.—Her Majesty's Council may examine the physicians in attendance on oath.—Her Majesty and Council to notify his Majesty's recovery by instrument sent to the Privy Council: the Privy Council to assemble and enter said instrument.—After such instrument his Majesty may, by sign manual, require the Privy Council to assemble.—If his Majesty, by the advice of such Privy Council, so assembled, shall signify his pleasure to resume the personal exercise of his royal authority, a proclamation shall be issued accordingly.—Such proclamation, countersigned by the said or the said Privy Council, together with the other proceedings, to be sent to the Lord-Mayor, and the present act to cease.—In the case of the death of the Regent, or of her Majesty, or of the resumption by the King, parliament if prorogued or adjourned, to meet and sit, or if dissolved the members of the late parliament to meet and sit again.—Parliament so met not to sit longer than months.—In the case of the death of her Majesty the care of his Majesty's person to be vested in her council.

Mr. Perceval had formed the Regency Bill on



His Royal Highness
THE PRINCE REGENT.
Engraved by J. Hopwood, Junr.

the plan which had been adopted by his predecessor, Mr. Pitt. The period of the Regent's restrictions was fixed for 12 months, from the 6th of February, or until six weeks after the meeting of parliament—an amendment was moved, limiting the restrictions to six months, which was lost. The Duke of York was proposed as a fit person to be one of her Majesty's Council, but this proposition was negatived. The progress of the bill was checked by the opposition made to some of its clauses, but the ministers being supported by a large majority, the bill, with some amendments, was passed, and differed but little from that which had been proposed in 1788. On the 27th the Prince of Wales took the sacrament in the Chapel Royal, previous to his entering on the office of Regent, and on the 6th of February his Royal Highness took the oaths as Regent of the United Kingdom. On the 12th the Regent not finding it convenient to be present personally in parliament, had authorised his Royal Highness the Duke of York and certain other peers to open the parliament by commission. At the first court which the Regent held, February the 14th, he received the address of the Corporation of London, and the Lord-Mayor had the honour to kiss his Royal Highness's hand.

The Queen held her first council under the Regency act on the 13th. Her Majesty intended to have celebrated the King's birth-day, at Windsor, and the Regent also intended, on the 5th of June, after the review of all the volunteer and regular

troops in the neighbourhood of the metropolis, to have given a magnificent gala ball and supper at Carlton House, to the Queen, Princesses, and noblesse; and his Royal Highness ordered it to be expressly notified on the several cards of invitation —“ that every person, of whatever rank or sex, is expected to appear on this occasion dressed entirely in the manufactures of the United Kingdoms of these realms:” but his Majesty, who was thought to have been in an improving state, having experienced a fresh accession of his disorder, his birth-day, which never before had been omitted to be celebrated as a grand court and national festival, was not kept this year. The houses of the tradesmen were in general illuminated, and the day was observed at Windsor by the Queen and Royal Family in a private manner. The grand gala at Carlton House was also postponed. Two thousand quarts of cream had been sent there to be used on this occasion: it was deposited in an ice-house, and orders were issued for as much more. The quantity of pastry prepared was immense. The upholsterers were daily employed in making preparations for this fete in the house and garden. This long-expected gala took place on the 18th. Upwards of 2000 of the nobility and gentry of the country, the foreign ambassadors, the French Princes and nobility, and other distinguished foreigners were invited. The apartments were decorated with splendour perfectly new: the palace was a scene of enchantment, and every elegant

female, clad in the attire of her native country, added to the beauty of the assemblage. The conservatory was one of the most distinguished objects in the splendid arrangement. The grand table extended the whole length of 200 feet. At the head of the table, above the fountain, sat the Prince Regent on a throne of crimson velvet, trimmed with gold, which commanded a view of the company. The most particular friends of the Prince were arranged on each side. At the back of the throne appeared *aureole* tables, covered with crimson drapery, constructed to exhibit, with the greatest effect, a profusion of the most exquisitely wrought silver gilt plate, consisting of fountains, tripods, espergnes, dishes, and other ornaments. Above the whole of this grand display appeared a royal crown, and his Majesty's cypher, G. R. splendidly illuminated; for the Prince gave all the grandeur and honour of this brilliant fete to his Royal Parent. The library and council-room displayed the greatest taste: the latter was appropriated to dancing, and the floors chalked in a beautiful style. When the whole company was seated there was a line of female beauty more richly adorned, and a blaze of jewellery more brilliant, than England ever displayed before. Dancing commenced about 12 o'clock. At three, supper was announced by the striking up of three bands of grand martial music, stationed in the gardens. Chairs for 2000 were placed, but that number being insufficient, recesses were soon furnished, so that all were am-

ply provided. There were present 14 dukes, 15 duchesses, 15 marquises, 16 marchionesses, 98 earls, 85 countesses, (among whom was the countess of Derby,) 30 viscounts, 21 viscountesses, 107 lords, and as many ladies of the same rank, besides barons, counts, admirals, generals, aldermen, &c. The Duchess of York, (for the Princess of Wales was not present,) executed her arduous task of receiving the company, and doing the honours of the fete, in such a manner as gave the highest satisfaction to the noble visitors.

The hams, tongues, and viands of several other descriptions, which had been prepared for this Gala, as soon as the order for its postponement was known, were distributed among the workmen, &c. of the house. The expences were upwards of 50,000*l*.

The splendid apartments which had been fitted up on this occasion, were by permission of the Regent, opened for the inspection of those who could obtain tickets for that purpose. They were viewed by several thousands on the 24th and 25th; but on the 26th, the crowd was so immense, and they rushed in with such violence when the gate was opened, that several females were seriously hurt; and very few of them could leave the place till furnished with a fresh supply of clothes. Several women were trodden under foot, and received considerable injury; and five or six men were so overcome, that they fainted, and were carried off. At half past 4 o'clock, his Royal Highness the

Duke of Clarence came forward, and addressed the populace. He told them, that he was desired by his Royal brother, the Prince Regent, to say, that however happy he would be to gratify the public, from the unfortunate accidents that had occurred, he had been advised to close the gates, and that he had ordered they should not be again opened. Placards to the same effect were also placed upon the gates, and on the pillars in front of the house; but the crowd, although sensibly diminished, remained until near dusk, when they rapidly dispersed.

The number of stray shoes in the court-yard was so great, they filled a large tub, from which the shoeless ladies were invited to select their lost property. Many ladies and gentlemen were obliged to walk away in their stockings alone.

Though his Majesty's recovery was fondly anticipated, yet his health continued in a most unsatisfactory state. The paroxysms, which had assumed a milder character, soon became more acute and violent; and the glandular swellings in the throat, by which they were accompanied, rendered it very painful and difficult to convey the nourishment to the stomach; and even the administration of medicine was not easily accomplished. By the use of opiates his Majesty obtained sleep, but apparently without refreshment. The Queen's attention to her afflicted consort was unremitted.

On account of the calamitous state of his Majesty, the Prince Regent's birth-day was not publicly

celebrated. His Royal Highness, and all the Royal Dukes visited her Majesty, and the Princesses at Frogmore, when the day was kept *en famille*, as no visitors were invited. The Duke of Northumberland endowed and opened, at Alnwick, a seminary for 200 boys, the children of the neighbouring poor, to be clothed, fed, and educated at his Grace's expence; enacting, that the natal-day of the Prince Regent should be always observed as a holiday.

A ball was given at Oatlands by the Duchess of York, November the 13th, for the purpose of introducing the Princess Charlotte into company. The Prince Regent in going down a dance with his daughter, struck his right foot against the leg of a chair, which giving it a twist, occasioned a sprain of the ankle. Little inconvenience was produced by the accident till next morning, when Mr. Home was sent for, who discovered that two tendons of the foot were broken. His Royal Highness was confined about a month, at Oatlands.

On the birth-day of the Princess Charlotte of Wales, January the 7th, 1812, the Prince of Wales gave a grand dinner at Carlton House to the Queen, Princesses Augusta and Mary, the Dukes of York, Clarence, Kent, and Cumberland. At five the Queen and Princesses left Carlton House for Windsor.

As his Majesty's disorder appeared almost hopeless, and the restricted regency was near its expiration, a total change of ministers and measures

was generally expected. The Prince Regent, however, on coming to the full and unlimited exercise of the functions of Royalty, stated in a letter to the Duke of York, that he had no predilections to indulge, no resentments to gratify, and no objects to attain, but such as were common to the whole empire. He expressed a wish indeed that some of those persons with whom the early habits of public life had been formed, should constitute a part of the government, but, on the refusal of Lords Grey and Grenville to coalesce with members of the existing administration, his Royal Highness thought proper to retain those persons with whom their lordships were unwilling to unite.

On the 28d the Prince Regent declared, in a note to Mr. Ponsonby, the ostensible leader of the opposition in the House of Commons, that the Catholic claims should not, in future, be discussed by his ministers as an ordinary government question. The day before, the Prince Regent had a large party to dinner at Carlton House, among whom were the Princess Charlotte, the Duchess of York, and their female attendants; their Royal Highnesses the Dukes of York and Cambridge; Lords Moira, Erskine, and Lauderdale; Messrs. Adam, Sheridan, &c. The conversation soon turned on the late attempt to form an united administration, and the Prince having expressed several times his surprise at the conduct of Lords Grey and Grenville, Lord Lauderdale entered into a justification of his friends. The conversation

became so warm, that Princess Charlotte, observing her royal father's agitation, dropped her head and burst into tears : Upon which the Prince turning round, observed—" You appear nervous, my dear—I think you had better withdraw." The female part of the company then withdrew, and the noblemen and gentlemen remained with his Royal Highness till a late hour.

The Prince Regent held his first levee, since the expiration of the restrictions, March the 12th. Lords Grenville and Grey were present, and several other eminent members of the opposition.

The first Lord of the Treasury, Mr. Perceval, held his situation but a short time ; for, on the 11th of May, as he was entering the lobby of the House of Commons, at a quarter past five o'clock, a person of the name of Bellingham, who had placed himself at the side of the door, fired a pistol at him; the ball of which entered his left breast. Mr. Perceval uttered a faint exclamation, staggered a few paces, and fell on his face. He was immediately taken up, and conveyed into the speaker's apartments, but before he reached them the last signs of life had departed ; for the assassin had taken so sure an aim that his victim was shot through the centre of the heart. A scene of ineffable confusion and dismay ensued, and at this moment the murderer might probably have escaped undiscovered, but instead of attempting to leave this place he deliberately sat down, and without hesitation, avowed the horrid deed which he had

perpetrated. At the close of his examination, when asked what he had to say, he replied "I admit the fact; but wish to state something in my justification. I have been denied the redress of my grievances by government. I am a most unfortunate man, and feel here" raising his hand to his breast, "sufficient justification for what I have done."

Bellingham was brought to the bar of the Old Bailey, on the 16th, when the plea of insanity was suggested by his counsel, but rejected by himself. In his defence, which occupied the attention of the court for upwards of an hour, he chiefly expatiated on the ill usage which he conceived he had experienced from government, and attempted to prove that his assassination of Mr. Perceval was an act of justice. When the jury returned a verdict of guilty, and sentence of death was pronounced, he appeared perfectly calm and collected; and at his execution, which took place on the 18th, he displayed an extraordinary degree of firmness and self-possession, and refused to the very last to express any contrition for his crime. Mr. Perceval's funeral took place the 16th of May. The Prince Regent sent a message to both houses of parliament, recommending them to make some provision for Mr. Perceval's numerous and afflicted family, and the sum of 50,000*l.* was voted for the use of the children, and 2,000*l.* per annum to the widow, to be paid, after her decease, to such male descendant of the Right Honourable Spencer Per-

ceval, as shall be at that time his heir, for the term of life.

The principal changes in the administration were, Lord Liverpool as prime minister; Lord Sidmouth as secretary of state for the home department; the Earl of Harrowby, lord president of the council; and Mr. Vansittart, chancellor of the exchequer.

On the 1st of October the Queen, accompanied by the Princess Charlotte of Wales, the Princesses Augusta and Mary, the Prince Regent and the Duke of Clarence, visited the New Theatre Royal, Drury Lane, which was just finished. Every suitable preparation was made for her Majesty's reception which could be effected consistently with the works still in progress. Crimson carpeting was laid down from the foot pavement, where her Majesty alighted, over the whole of the staircases, rooms, corridors, and avenues, through which her Majesty passed. All the work people were placed in the two galleries, and none but those who were necessarily in attendance on the Royal Family were allowed to appear in any other parts of the building. The interior of the theatre itself was illuminated precisely as it was afterwards on the nights of performance, and day-light carefully excluded.

The absence of the Princess of Wales from the fetes at Carlton House has been already hinted, and the public became at length apprised of a misunderstanding between their Royal Highnesses.

On the 14th of January, 1813, a letter was sent by the Princess of Wales to the Prince Regent, complaining of the restrictions laid upon her intercourse with her daughter, and the indirect imputation thus attached to her character. No answer having been returned, her Royal Highness thought proper to publish her letter in the newspapers, that an apparent acquiescence on her part might not expose her to the suspicion of conscious guilt. The business was then laid before certain members of the privy council, and, after some days, they gave as their opinion, that, under all the existing circumstances "it is highly proper that the intercourse between her Royal Highness the Princess of Wales and the Princess Charlotte, should continue to be subject to regulation and restraint."

On the reception of this report her R. H. appealed to the House of Commons through the medium of the Speaker, earnestly requesting that the whole of her conduct since her arrival in England might undergo a fair and open trial before judges, known to the constitution. In the course of this delicate investigation, the documents produced proved that an examination had taken place in 1806, by his Majesty's commission, signed May the 29th, touching the conduct of her Royal Highness. The result of those examinations was, that the allegations of her Royal Highness's enemies were disproved; and our readers may see by the preceding pages that she was not only admitted to court, but occasionally visited by her Majesty,

especially when her mother, his Majesty's sister, arrived in London. The House of Commons did not think proper to interfere in such a delicate business, but the conversations which took place on the subject, were decidedly in favour of the Princess. The indisposition of the Princess Charlotte, which had commenced previous to the fete at Carlton House, had so encreased, that her Royal Highness was obliged to defer her return to Windsor. The Princess of Wales wishing to visit her daughter at Warwick House, applied to Lord Liverpool; who, in his answer, stated the recovery of the Princess Charlotte, and that she would be able to visit the Princess of Wales, at Kensington Palace, on the 11th of February. On that morning, when the Princess of Wales was stopping into her carriage, she received information that the Princess Charlotte was refused coming. This disappointment seems to have stimulated her Royal Highness's application to the House of Commons.

In the forenoon of March the 9th, as the Princess of Wales was returning in her carriage down Constitution Hill, her Royal Highness observed the Princess Charlotte in her carriage, passing along Piccadilly, towards Hyde Park. The Princess of Wales immediately ordered her coachman to turn about, and the horses proceeding nearly at a gallop, overtook the Princess Charlotte's carriage in Hyde Park, near the bridge. Their Royal Highnesses, from the windows of their

carriages, affectionately embraced, and continued in earnest conversation for about 10 minutes. A considerable number of spectators were very soon attracted to the spot; and when their Royal Highnesses separated, it was observed that the Princess Charlotte was in high spirits.

In the month of April there were congratulatory addresses to her Royal Highness the Princess of Wales, from the cities of London, Westminster, and Middlesex. The Livery of the City of London waited on her Royal Highness at Kensington Palace, and having delivered their address her Royal Highness read her answer with great propriety, feeling, and dignity. Immediately after the Lord Mayor and Sheriffs had kissed her Royal Highness's hand, the livery pressed forward to enjoy the same honour; the Princess of Wales appeared slightly agitated, but instantaneously recovering herself, she exclaimed "I beg gentlemen you will not hurry yourselves—you will have plenty of time." There were also addresses from the city of Bristol, the borough of Southwark, and from Boston signed by 400 ladies.

On the 23d of March the Duchess of Brunswick, his Majesty's sister, and the Princess of Wales's mother, died. The Prince Regent and the Queen being desirous that the wishes and feelings of the Duke of Brunswick, her son, should be consulted on the occasion, the gentlemen belonging to the Lord Chamberlain and those who had the arrangement of the funeral, waited on his

Serene Highness at his residence at Vauxhall. His Highness signified his intention to be the chief mourner. As her Royal Highness was only a visitor in this country and had no royal establishment, the funeral was of a private nature. The coffin was received in Brook Street, and the procession reached Frogmore about eight at night. At the porch of St. George's chapel, the body was taken out of the hearse, and placed upon a bier, which was carried by ten yeomen of the guards. The Duke of Brunswick had arrived at the Dean's in Windsor, in the afternoon, and acted as chief mourner. The service was performed by the Dean.

About the beginning of May her Majesty was very much indisposed, owing to an attack from a female domestic, who was seized with a violent fit of insanity. She was after some trouble secured and sent to a mad-house. In a few days her Majesty was quite recovered.

On the 29th the Princess of Wales appeared in public, for the first time since her triumphant acquittal at the Opera House, and her behaviour displayed considerable dignity, feeling, and delicacy.

About four o'clock, June the 23d, the Princess of Wales, attended by Lady Glenbervie, her mistress of the robes, left Kensington Palace in her carriage and pair. Her Royal Highness proceeded through Knightsbridge, and just as the carriage got to Hyde Park Corner, the Princess

Charlotte passed in her carriage, and proceeded along Rotten Row, to take an airing. Neither of the carriages stopped, but each passed on. On the arrival of the Princess at York House a carpet was laid on the steps and entrance to the house for her Royal Highness. The Duchess of York, attended by Lady Ann Culling Smith, the lady of the bedchamber, her pages and livery servants, in half dress, conducted the Princess to her drawing-room. In a short time after the Duchess of York sent a letter to the Princess Charlotte, which her Royal Highness found on, her return to Warwick House, from taking her airing, a little before five o'clock. The Princess Charlotte returned a written answer to the letter. The Royal personages saluted each other at parting, and about six o'clock the Princess of Wales returned to Kensington Palace to dinner.

On the 30th the Prince Regent gave a grand ball and supper at Carlton House. There were near a thousand persons present, and the dresses were of the most magnificent and costly sort. As it was the wish of the Prince to entertain his guests with as much ease and comfort as possible, the plan was adopted of laying the supper in tents for a considerable number, as a cool retreat from the heat of the ball-room and state apartments; and this object would have been completely answered, provided the weather had proved favourable. There was besides a covered promenade, extending the whole length of the palace, decorated with

every variety of shrubs and flowers of the most ornamental description, brought from the royal gardens of Kew, Kensington, and Hampton Court: the whole brilliantly illuminated with variegated lamps; but the torrents of rain which fell in the course of the day, and which penetrated in various places, compelled the company to forego the pleasure of enjoying the promenade, which, from the number of superbly dressed ladies must otherwise have produced a delightful effect. The tents, together with the apparatus for the covered promenade, were chiefly ordnance stores, brought from Woolwich and the Tower. The Queen and Princesses Elizabeth, Mary, and Sophia of Gloucester, arrived at half past nine o'clock in their chairs. They were received with military honours by the guard, the band playing "God save the King." They were ushered in by two pages of the presence, in full uniform, with wax lights; the hall and other rooms, through which they passed, were lined with forty of the yeomen of the guard, together with the livery servants in their state liveries.

The company assembled in different rooms till about eleven o'clock, when one of the pages conducted them to the state-room, where the Prince Regent, the Queen, and the rest of the Royal Family were assembled. The Prince soon after attended the Queen to the ball-room, followed by the Princesses Elizabeth and Mary, conducted by the Duke of Cambridge; Princess Charlotte by

the Duke of York; and the Duchess of York and Princess Sophia of Gloucester, by the Duke of Kent. The Queen took her seat at the upper end of the room, in a superb arm chair, attended by the lady in waiting, &c. The Prince of Orange followed soon after. The first dance was led off by the Princess Mary and the Marquis Cornwallis, followed by the Princess Charlotte and Lord James Murray. The Duke of Brunswick arrived while this dance was going down, and after having paid his respects to the Queen, the Prince, and the rest of the Royal Family, he mixed with the company. Although the Princess Elizabeth did not join in the dance, she appeared to enjoy the amusement extremely: and her usual vivacity of disposition was very conspicuous. When supper was announced the Royal Family descended by a staircase to the conservatory: supper was laid for about 60. After supper dancing was resumed. Her Majesty and the Princesses left Carlton House about half past five o'clock for the Queen's Palace. It was six before all the company had left the splendid scene.

At this time the Duke of Sussex experienced a severe paralytic affection, at Kensington Palace, and the Duke of Clarence was also seriously indisposed at Bushy.

The Princess Charlotte of Wales's birth-day was celebrated with great splendour in 1814. The festivities at Belvoir Castle continued for three days. The Duke of Rutland received the Prince

A short time previous to the arrival of the Emperor of Russia and King of Prussia, when it was expected that the levees and drawing-rooms would be particularly splendid, and it was natural that the Princess of Wales would wish to be present at them, her Royal Highness received a letter from the Queen, in which her Majesty stated that she had received a communication from her son, the Prince Regent, in which he declared that he considered his presence at his own court indispensable, and desired it might be distinctly understood, *for reasons of which he alone could be judge*, to be his fixed and unalterable determination not to meet the Princess of Wales, upon any occasion, either in public or private. The Queen added, that she was thus placed under the painful necessity of intimating to the Princess of Wales the impossibility of her Majesty's receiving her Royal Highness at her drawing-room. To this letter the Princess of Wales replied by recalling to the recollection of her Majesty, the affectionate regard with which the King had honoured her; at the same time bestowing upon her the most gratifying and unequivocal proofs of his Majesty's attachment and approbation, by his public reception of her at his court, at a season of severe and unmerited affliction, when his protection was most necessary to her. She was now without an appeal, but she could not so far forget her duty to the King and to herself, as to surrender her right to appear at any public drawing-room to be held by

her Majesty : yet, that she might not add to the difficulty and uneasiness of her Majesty's situation, she yielded in the present instance to the will of his Royal Highness the Prince Regent. "It would appear presumptuous in me," she continued, "to enquire of your Majesty the *reasons* of his Royal Highness the Prince Regent for this harsh proceeding, of which his Royal Highness alone can be the judge. I am unconscious of offence; and in that reflection I must endeavour to find consolation for all the mortifications I experience, even for this, the last, the most unexpected and severe:—the prohibition given to me alone to appear before your Majesty, to offer my congratulations upon the happy termination of those calamities with which Europe has been so long afflicted, in the presence of the illustrious personages who will, in all probability, be assembled at your Majesty's court, with which I am so closely connected by birth and marriage." Her Royal Highness concluded the letter by beseeching her Majesty to acquaint the illustrious strangers with the reasons which alone induced her to abstain from the exercise of her right to appear before her Majesty; and by an intimation that she herself would make public the cause of her absence from court.

Two days after this letter was sent to the Queen the Princess of Wales wrote to the Prince Regent, but receiving no answer, her Royal Highness, about a week afterwards, addressed a letter to the

Speaker of the House of Commons to the following purport : that his Royal Highness the Prince Regent had been advised to take steps for preventing her appearance at court ; and to state his unalterable determination never to meet the Princess, either in public or private. The proceedings of 1807 and of 1813 her Royal Highness considered to be in the perfect recollection of the House, as well as the ample vindication of her conduct to which those proceedings led. It was utterly impossible for her Royal Highness to conceal what was the intention of the advice given to the Prince Regent, or the probability of other objects, pregnant with danger to the future succession of the throne and to the domestic peace and tranquillity of the realm. Whatever might be her own feelings, a sense of what was due to her daughter and to the interests of the country, induced her to communicate what had passed to the House of Commons. Her Royal Highness, therefore, enclosed copies of the communication between her Majesty and herself.

A motion was made by Mr. Methuen to address the Prince Regent, praying that he would be graciously pleased to acquaint the House by whose advice he had been induced to form the unalterable resolution of never meeting her Royal Highness the Princess of Wales, either in public or private. This motion however was withdrawn, to be afterwards brought forward in case her Royal Highness was still excluded from the drawing-room,

But when the subject was again introduced in the House of Commons the necessity of increasing the establishment of her Royal Highness was much more insisted upon than the injustice under which she still laboured.

The Princess Charlotte of Wales had taken the part of her mother in this dispute, and was therefore not on good terms with the Queen. In consequence of this she was kept much more retired and private than her rank and age gave her a right to expect she should be. Those who were appointed to superintend and direct her education were very often changed. From these and other causes her situation was by no means agreeable to her. It was intended at this time that the Princess should marry, and the person fixed upon was the young Prince of Orange, who was recommended by having been long in England, and therefore well acquainted with the government and manners of the people—by having received his education at an English university, and by the connection between his family and that of the reigning family of Great Britain.

The Queen, in her correspondence with the Princess of Wales, was, at times, remarkably laconic, and always held out that she acted by the desire of the Prince Regent. The task undertaken by her Majesty was one of doubtful policy, and painful character. If imposed upon her there was a total want of filial solicitude, and if volunteered a want of tenderness for the sex and situation of

her daughter. When the Princess of Wales requested her Majesty to make known the cause of her Royal Highness's absence from her Majesty's court to the illustrious personages who were expected to be assembled there, the answer was

“The Queen considers it incumbent upon her to send a copy of the Princess of Wales's letter to the Prince Regent; and her Majesty could have felt no hesitation in communicating to the illustrious strangers who may possibly be present at her court, the circumstances which will prevent the Princess of Wales from appearing there, if her Royal Highness had not rendered a compliance with her wish to this effect unnecessary, by intimating her intention of making public the cause of her absence.”

The Princess of Wales observed, that such communication could not be the less necessary on account of any publicity which it might be in the power of her Royal Highness to give to her motives, and the Princess of Wales, therefore, entreated the active good offices of her Majesty. The Princess received the following note, dated Windsor Castle, May the 27th, 1814.

“The Queen cannot omit to acknowledge the receipt of the Princess of Wales's note of yesterday, although it does not appear to her Majesty to require any other reply than that conveyed to her Royal Highness's preceding letter.

“Charlotte R.”

On the 2d of June her Majesty held a drawing-room at Buckingham House. The company were conducted into the saloon from the grand hall and stair-case previous to the opening of the drawing-room. The drawing-room adjoined the saloon, the windows looking into the Queen's garden: it was about thirty feet square, and was entirely new furnished, and ornamented on the occasion. A new state chair was designed and executed by one of the first upholsterers, which measured above six feet high at the back: the seat appeared to be about two feet high. The whole was richly carved and gilt in burnished gold, and finished in crimson velvet. The legs were lions' claws, and the tops lions' heads, richly gilt. On the top of the back were two cherubs over G. C. R. supporting the crown, encircled with rich foliage and flowers. There was a footstool to correspond with it. Her Majesty occasionally sat in or leaned against the front of the chair, to rest from the fatigues of the day, which were excessive from the number of hours it engaged her attention, and the heat from the crowded state of the rooms. There were present the Princess Charlotte, Princesses Augusta and Mary, Dukes of York, Kent, Sussex, Cambridge, and Gloucester, the Princess Sophia of Gloucester, the Prince of Orange, the Prince of Wirtemberg, the Prince and Duchess of Oldenburg, the Princess Valchowski, the cabinet ministers, the two archbishops, law officers, &c. &c. The Princess Elizabeth was absent in consequence

of indisposition. Two days before the Queen's drawing-room Sir H. Halford, and all the physicians attending the King, were called in, and the Queen and the other Princesses declined in consequence their visit to the Eton Montem. In the afternoon they also gave up their journey to London. Her Royal Highness continued in a dangerous state till four o'clock the next morning, when her disorder took a favourable turn, and she was declared out of danger.

On the 8th the allied sovereigns, the Emperor Alexander, and the King of Prussia, with their relatives and numerous suites, entered London.— At a quarter past eight o'clock her Majesty, the Princesses Augusta and Mary, arrived at Buckingham House from Windsor. At nine her Majesty held a private court for the purpose of receiving one of the principal gentlemen of the Emperor of Russia's court, to announce to the Queen the arrival of the Emperor.

At half past five o'clock the approach of the Emperor to the Palace was announced. He was introduced to the Queen by the Earl of Morton, her chamberlain. Her Majesty was pleased to express her high gratification at receiving the Emperor at her Palace, and the Emperor in reply expressed his high sense of the flattering manner in which he had been received in England. Her Majesty was accompanied by the Princesses Augusta and Mary, the Duchess of York, Princess Charlotte, the Dukes of York, Kent, Sussex, and

Cambridge, and attended by a full court. At seven the Queen's court closed. After which her Majesty and the Princesses went to Carlton House to meet a Royal party to dinner, consisting of the Emperor of Russia, the Grand Duchess of Oldenburg, the King of Prussia, his two sons, two brothers, nephew, cousin, the Prince Radziville, the Prince Royal of Wirtemberg, Prince Royal of Bavaria, the Prince of Orange, the Prince of Oldenburg, the Duke and Duchess of York, the Dukes of Kent and Cambridge, Princess Charlotte, Prince Charles of Mecklenburg, and the Princess Sophia of Gloucester. The front of Carlton House was brilliantly illuminated.

The Prince Regent held a Court at Carlton House, which was attended by the illustrious sovereigns, the Royal Dukes, Cabinet Ministers, &c. At half past two the King of Prussia and family arrived in state. At a quarter past three the Emperor of Russia arrived in state. He was met at the door of Carlton House by the Prince Regent. His Royal Highness conducted the Emperor to his closet, where they held a conference for some time, and were dressed in robes of the Garter. A procession was then formed from the closet to the chapter room.

The Prince Regent took his seat on the throne, having on his right a chair of state, in which his Imperial Majesty was placed, and a vacant chair on his left for the King of Prussia. A statute was then read electing the King a knight of the order,

and being introduced, he was invested with the insignia of the order. Another statute was then read, electing the Emperor of Austria a member of the Garter; and to which succeeded a third statute, conferring the same honour on Earl Liverpool and Viscount Castlereagh. Their lordships were then severally introduced, and received the honour of knighthood, and were afterwards invested with the usual ceremonies. Immediately after the conclusion of the chapter, his Royal Highness the Prince Regent received the congratulatory address from the corporation of the City of London on the restoration of peace.

On the 10th the Illustrious Visitors, the Prince Regent, the Queen, the Princesses, and the Royal Dukes attended Ascot Races, where each met with his share of British congratulation. The Prince Regent retired from the ground, accompanied by her Majesty, in the carriage of the latter, amidst the congratulations of the company. Dinner was provided for 100 persons at Frogmore, for the Royal Family and the distinguished personages, and their suites. The august party first visited the Castle, and viewed the pictures and other curiosities. A grand National Jubilee was also given by the Prince Regent in his three parks.

The Allied Sovereigns visited the theatres, Chelsea, and Greenwich Hospitals, and a grand City Festival. At seven o'clock dinner was announced, and the Royal and illustrious company passed from the drawing-rooms into the Hall, in

procession, to the sound of music, the band playing "Oh the Roast Beef of Old England." The Royal table was a semi-circle, and was most sumptuous in its display of gold plate.

The Emperor of Russia having been extremely delighted with a performance of Sacred Music at Carlton House, June the 19th, it being the first English concert he had heard, the Prince Regent gave another grand concert on the 21st, and invited a splendid party to meet her Majesty. The Queen and Princesses came soon after nine, and entered by the garden from St. James's Palace. The King and Princes of Prussia came about ten. The Emperor and the Grand Duchess did not come till about eleven, and the Grand Duchess stayed but a very short time, merely while she took her final farewell of the Queen, the branches of the Royal Family, and other distinguished characters. The Emperor remained till after the Queen and Princesses left. The concert was upon a grand scale, and very judiciously arranged. The allied Sovereigns left England for France at the close of June.

The Princess of Wales departed in the Jason frigate for the continent, August the 9th. After she had left Worthing, Capt. King appeared on the beach, got into a small boat, and about half-way between the shore and the Jason was met by his own barge, which proceeded to Lancing for the Princess: her female domestics were taken on board from Worthing. Her Royal Highness and her suite

were conveyed to the barge in a small poney-cart, driven by her own coachman. All the carriages and horsemen which had been found on the beach at Worthing, and as many pedestrians as could, followed her Royal Highness to Worthing. When on board the barge she kissed her hands to the females, who waved their handkerchiefs. The farewell was a silent one, seemingly as if it were feared that shouts might be misconstrued. She arrived at Milan on the 8th of October. In the evening her Royal Highness went to the great theatre Della Scala, accompanied by several persons of distinction.

Though the young Prince of Orange did not seem very acceptable to the Princess Charlotte, yet, as mutual attachment is seldom deemed a requisite in Royal marriages, it was imagined that the match would take place. The real objections of the young Princess to her intended husband were never satisfactorily explained. She certainly expressed a strong unwillingness to leave the country, especially at a time when her mother required her countenance and consolation. This objection seemed to have been removed by a promise that her absence should not be permanent, but only for a short time, and that she should never be asked to go to Holland again. In this the Princess appeared first to acquiesce, and the marriage settlements were nearly drawn up. Suddenly, however, her Royal Highness is said to have expressed doubts as to the security tendered her, that she should not

be obliged to reside longer in Holland than she wished, and to have demanded that a clause should be inserted in the marriage contract, prohibiting her ever quitting the kingdom, on any account, or for any time, however short. To this the Prince of Orange could not consent, as he was already engaged to the Dutch to take the Princess among them for a short time. Such was the reported occasion of the match being broken off, and the natural consequence was, that the Princess and her Royal Father were not disposed to look on each other so affectionately as they did before. The Queen was also displeased with the punctilious conduct of her Royal Grand-daughter, and the Regent thought proper to remove the principal persons in his daughter's household, and substitute others. The Princess Charlotte seized an opportunity of quitting Warwick House in a private manner, but was induced to return the next day, and was immediately removed to Carlton House. Her uncle, the Duke of Sussex, in the House of Lords, put several questions to the Earl of Liverpool respecting the communication which the Princess Charlotte was permitted to keep up with her friends since her removal from Warwick House. The Earl of Liverpool refused to answer those questions, and the Duke of Sussex consequently gave notice of a regular and formal motion on the subject, which he was afterwards induced to withdraw.

The Prince Regent gave a superb fete to Field-

marshal the Duke of Wellington, on July the 21st, at Carlton House. Besides the principal branches of the Royal Family, there were present the Foreign Ambassadors, the Ministers, the great Officers of State, a great number of foreigners of rank, and a numerous assemblage of the nobility. The Queen and Princesses Augusta and Mary arrived in their chairs exactly at ten o'clock. They were received at the library by the Duke of Kent, and the Regent hastened immediately to attend his Royal guests. About half an hour after they entered the polygon room, the Queen leaning on the Prince Regent's right arm. The Queen and Prince were followed by the Duke of Kent and Princess Augusta, the Duke of Cambridge and Princess Mary, the Princess Sophia of Gloucester, and the Duke and Duchess of York. The dancing then commenced, and a little before two o'clock the company retired to supper. After supper, dancing re-commenced. The Queen and Princesses withdrew about half-past four: the rest of the company remained till about six.

The Queen having signified her intention of visiting Brighton, arrangements of the most splendid nature were made. The Prince Regent, attended by Colonel Bloomfield, arrived at the Pavilion, October the 22d. About two o'clock on the 24th, the 7th Hussars were drawn up in a line near the Pavilion, commanded by Colonel Vivian; they were fronted by the 3d regiment of buff infantry, with their full bands richly caparisoned. About

three the Duke of Kent arrived in his travelling coach and four, attended by his retinue. He was followed by her Majesty's and the Princesses' attendants and dressers. At a quarter before four the flourish of trumpets announced the arrival of her Majesty and the Princesses Mary, Elizabeth, and Augusta. A royal salute was commanded, and the band struck up "God save the King." Her Majesty and Royal Daughters approached the gates in a travelling carriage and four, escorted by a detachment of Hussars. The Royal Visitors were received by the Prince Regent, and conducted to the grand hall, followed by several distinguished characters. A sumptuous dinner was prepared at seven o'clock, and the company, consisting of about fifteen, sat down. When the dinner was over, a card party was made up, and the Royal Guests were entertained until twelve o'clock at night.

The next morning the Prince Regent accompanied the Queen and Princesses through the town of Brighton, explaining to them every establishment, this being the first time the Royal Females had honoured the town with their presence. They rode in carriages till they came to the Steyne, where they alighted, and walked for a considerable time, followed by an immense concourse of people. After gratifying the whole of the numerous spectators, the Royal Visitors repaired through the garden to the Pavilion. The Queen was dressed in a purple pelisse and an Oldenburg bonnet. The Princesses were plain, but elegant.

On the 11th of April, 1815, the Queen held a drawing-room at Buckingham House, which being the only one that had occurred for ten months before, caused a considerable bustle. The Princess Charlotte of Wales arrived early, and drested in the palace for the drawing-room. The Queen entered the drawing-room about two o'clock, accompanied by the Princesses Augusta and Elizabeth, with their several suites. The presentations were very numerous.

His Royal Highness the Duke of Cumberland (Prince Ernest) was married on the 29th of May to Frederica, Princess Salm, daughter of the Duke of Mecklenburg-Strelitz, and widow of Prince Louis of Prussia, and the Prince of Salm. This marriage was by no means agreeable to the Queen, who refused to admit the Duchess to court, and a spirited correspondence was the result. The Duke and Duchess of Cumberland were re-married at Carlton House on the 29th of September. On a message from the Prince Regent, the House of Commons granted an additional allowance of 6000*l.* to the Duke of Cumberland.

The Prince Regent having held a court at Carlton House, July the 5th, the corporation of the city of London presented an address of congratulation on the signal victory at Waterloo, wherein Buonaparte, who had unexpectedly returned to France from Elba with one thousand men, was defeated and put to flight. Having surrendered himself up to the English, he was, by order of the Prince Regent,

sent as a captive to the island of St. Helena. The Lord Mayor, &c. were graciously received, and had the honour of kissing his Royal Highness's hand.

The 18th of January, 1816, was appointed for a general thanksgiving, and at ten o'clock in the morning a grand full-dress parade of the guards took place in St. James's Park, for the purpose of depositing the two eagles, taken at Waterloo, in Whitehall chapel. The Duke of York, (now restored to the office of commander-in-chief by the Prince Regent), the Dukes of Kent and Gloucester, and an immense assemblage of military officers, ladies, and gentlemen were present. The eagles were placed in the centre of a guard of honour, composed of grenadiers, and marched off to the chapel, where they were deposited with due honours.

Early this year arrangements were made for the marriage of the Princess Charlotte of Wales to a prince of the house of Saxe-Cobourg, a captain in the Austrian service, and about twenty-six years of age. The Royal Nuptials took place May the 2d, and excited universal interest.

The altar for the celebration of the ceremony was placed near one of the fire-places in the crimson state-room. When every thing was ready, the Lord Chamberlain gave notice to Prince Leopold, who took his station in front of the altar, to which the Princess Charlotte was then led by the Duke of Clarence. The Prince Regent took his place by

the side of the Illustrious Pair. On the other side of the altar was the Queen, for whom a chair of state was placed. On her right hand were the Princesses Augusta, Elizabeth, and Mary, the Duchess of York, and Princess Sophia of Gloucester. On the left of the altar stood the Dukes of York, Clarence, and Kent: the Dukes of Cumberland, Sussex, and Gloucester were not present. The ceremony was performed by the Archbishop of Canterbury, assisted by the Bishop of London.

As soon as the ceremony was concluded, the Princess Charlotte embraced her Royal Father, and went up to the Queen, whose hand she kissed with respectful affection. Each of the Princesses her Royal Highness kissed, and then shook hands with her Illustrious Uncles.

The Queen had ordered of Mr. Barker, her confectioner, a great number of wedding-cakes, to be distributed, on the day of the Royal nuptials, to about five hundred persons in Windsor, Frogmore, and Kew. The wedding-clothes, and most of the jewels which the Princess Charlotte of Wales wore on this occasion, were presents from her Royal Grandmother.

The appointment of Prince Leopold as a general in the British army was soon afterwards announced in the Gazette. The Royal party spent a few days at Oatlands, but Claremont (which is about seventeen miles from London, and about the same distance from Windsor), became their chief residence. Claremont is a noble house, with a park of about

three hundred and fifty acres, well wooded. The price of this estate was 66,200*l*. The Prince Regent received a congratulatory address on the marriage of his daughter from the House of Commons; and a copy of the Treaty of Marriage having been laid before Parliament, the Royal pair were granted jointly, while living, 60,000*l*. per annum, 10,000*l*. of which went to her Royal Highness, independent of her husband's controul.

A grand entertainment was given at Carlton House in July. The strict etiquette was observed of inviting none who had not been at court; and the number on this occasion amounted to about seven hundred. Her Majesty, Princesses Augusta, Elizabeth, and Mary, left the Queen's palace at ten o'clock, in sedan chairs. The Prince Regent was in readiness at the grand entrance to receive them. The Duke of Gloucester came directly after. The Duke and Duchess of York came in state. The Duke of Kent entered by the private entrance from the park, as did Prince Leopold, who was deprived of the company of his Royal consort, through indisposition. Soon after eleven the Royal Family left the closet, conducted by the great officers of state, the Queen leaning on the arm of the Regent, and the other branches of the Royal Family followed according to their age and rank. They proceeded to the rotunda, and immediately on their entrance the Prince Regent's band struck up his Royal Highness's favourite march. The band also played Princess Mary's favourite waltz

during the time the numerous assemblage were paying their respects to the Queen, who sat in her state chair, accompanied by the Regent, who was in close attendance on his Royal Mother all night. The company attended strictly to the desire of the Regent, by appearing in British manufacture. The floor was tastefully chalked for dancing, which commenced at a quarter before twelve, and consisted chiefly of waltzes and cotillions. The company sat down to supper at half-past one, and continued about an hour, when dancing was resumed in the Rotunda. The Queen and Princesses did not remain long after supper.

On the 23d the Princess Mary was married to the Duke of Gloucester. After the ceremony, the Royal Family, including the bride and bridegroom, retired to the Queen's private apartments for some time; and the Queen and family, except the bridegroom, returned to the saloon and the drawing-room, and received the congratulations of the distinguished throng. The Royal pair afterwards went to Bagshot, and on the 6th of August gave an entertainment to the inhabitants in the vicinity. The cloth was laid for about one thousand persons, on the lawn near the mansion. An excellent dinner covered a temporary table, built for the occasion, consisting of roast beef, plum pudding, and fine old ale. The assemblage included both young and old, and the healths of the Royal couple were drank with enthusiasm. The entertainment was kept up till a late hour.

At this time Mr. Thomas Gray, of Sackville Street, Piccadilly, sold his concern to Messrs. De-lafons and Sons, without giving proper notice of his intention to the workmen, who were depending on the house. The shopmen were to remain as usual; but only three staid with Mr. Gray's successors, and were soon after discharged. Many of the workmen, who had large families, were consequently reduced to a state of miserable penury. The Queen expressed her indignation at Mr. Gray's conduct to Mr. Shepherd, who had been in the habit of attending Windsor Castle, to receive orders from the Royal Family; and her Majesty was pleased to grant her warrant to Messrs. Shepherd and Sheppard, who commenced business for themselves in Frith Street, Soho Square. The Princess Charlotte of Cobourg patronised Mr. Kitchen, in Dover Street, who had been in Mr. Gray's service.

A sudden and alarming illness prevented the Queen from holding a drawing-room on the 23d. of April, 1817. On the preceding night she awoke with pains, and called up her attendants, but after some time began to consider herself better. Between five and six o'clock, however, her Majesty got worse, and desired the Princesses Augusta and Elizabeth to be called: their attendants also, of course, rose, and there was an alarm in the palace that the Queen was very ill. A footman was dispatched with all speed to Sir Henry Halford's house, in Curzon Street, May Fair, and Sir Henry

was with the Queen by half-past six, and remained in the palace for some time. The indisposition of her Majesty was communicated to the Prince Regent, and the other branches of the Royal Family, and notices of the postponement of the drawing-room were sent in all directions. The following also appeared in a Supplement to the London Gazette of April the 22d :—

“ Lord Chamberlain's Office, April 23d.

“ The Queen having been indisposed in the night, her Majesty is unable to receive the company at the drawing-room this day.”

From this sudden indisposition her Majesty recovered, and was able, on the 3d of July, to visit Spode and Copeland's porcelain, Staffordshire, and extensive glass warehouses, in Portugal Street, Lincoln's Inn Fields. The Queen, accompanied by the Princess Elizabeth, went in a private manner, in the Countess Dowager of Cardigan's carriage, attended by her ladyship. The Royal party were received by Mr. Copeland and Mr. Astbury, his nephew, strictly in private, and were conducted over the different departments. The newly-invented china, called stone china, by Mr. Spode, was exhibited to the Queen. It resembles India china so closely, that it is with great difficulty the difference can be discovered. Her Majesty bought a service for herself, and a variety of articles for presents. The Royal party remained upwards of an hour inspecting the spacious premises,

and expressed themselves highly gratified. As they had no royal carriage, and as, at the Queen's express command, no preparation was made for her reception, they retired unobserved.

Her Majesty was still visited by spasms, which rendered every fresh attack more alarming; and, by the advice of the physicians, she went to Bath for a few months. While in Bath, for the last time, she minutely inspected every part of the institution formed at Bailbrook Lodge, of which her Majesty was the immediate patroness; and not only contributed very largely towards its support, but expressed great anxiety for its future welfare. This establishment offers a desirable residence to ladies of respectable character, whose birth places them in the rank of gentlewomen; and the plan is so arranged as to suit the circumstances of those whose income is very moderate. The society live together as one family, but none are admitted who are averse to a retired life, or unwilling to lend their aid in promoting works of charity and benevolence. It is principally intended for the reception of the widows and daughters of clergymen, and of officers in the army and navy, and is entirely under the auspices of ladies of the highest rank. The Queen very much regretted that there were not more establishments of the same kind in England.

At half-past two in the morning of November the 6th, the Princess Charlotte, who had been delivered at nine in the evening of a still-born male

child, expired at Claremont, to the great sorrow, not only of Prince Leopold, but of the public in general. The Prince remained disconsolate for some time, often viewing a miniature picture of his beloved wife. The Queen left Bath immediately on receiving the melancholy intelligence, and arrived in Windsor on the 8th. The Duke and Duchess of Gloucester arrived at Carlton House, from Weymouth, on the 10th, and the feelings of the Duchess were so overpowered upon seeing the Prince Regent, that the effect of her sensibility, added to the fatigues of her journey, rendered it expedient for her Royal Highness to take repose: an apartment at Carlton House was immediately prepared, and her Royal Highness was prevailed upon to retire to rest. The Prince Regent repaired to Windsor, to pay her Majesty and the Princesses a visit of condolence. The funeral of the Princess Charlotte and her infant son took place on the 18th. The Queen and the Princesses kept themselves closely confined to their chambers during the day.

The absence of her Majesty from Claremont Lodge at the time of the Princess Charlotte's accouchement became the subject of much censure among the lower orders; but they should have recollected, that if serious indisposition had not confined her Majesty at Bath, her then advanced age of life rendered her incapable of rendering any assistance, and consequently her presence would have been exceedingly inconvenient; add to which,

the Princess Charlotte never expressed a wish to see her Royal Grandmother. There is no doubt but that her Royal Highness would have preferred her OWN mother on this occasion! The Queen was exceedingly affected, particularly on account of the misunderstandings which had unhappily subsisted between her and her Royal Granddaughter; and the spasms, with which her Majesty had been afflicted, now became, on every attack, more and more excruciating.

On the 7th of April, 1818, the Princess Elizabeth, the Queen's favourite daughter, and who was particularly attached to the Princess Charlotte, was married to the Prince of Hesse Homberg. The acquaintance of the Royal bride and bridegroom commenced two years before, since which a correspondence had continued between them. The saloon in the Queen's palace was the place appointed for the solemnization of the marriage. Cards of invitation had been issued to the Foreign Ambassadors and Ministers, and their ladies, the Lord Chancellor, the Cabinet Ministers and their ladies, the Deputy Earl Marshal of England, the great Officers of State, and the Household, the King's, the Queen's, those of the Windsor establishment, the suites of the Royal Dukes and Duchesses, the Lord Chief Justice of the Court of King's Bench, and other distinguished characters. The Duke of York appeared, to give her away, the Prince Regent being absent through an attack of the gout. The Queen, whose temporary recovery enabled her

Majesty to be present on this momentous occasion, took her station in a chair of state on the left of the altar. The different branches of the Royal Family took their stations according to their rank. A profusion of wedding-cakes, which had been in preparation for several weeks, were distributed. The Prince Regent's cottage at Windsor was fitted up for the reception of the Royal couple.

The Duke of Clarence also intended to marry, but as Parliament would not grant the establishment required, but one similar to the Duke of Cumberland's, the marriage did not take place.

On the 29th her Majesty honoured with her presence a meeting of the National School Society at the Mansion House; but the reception which her Majesty met with from the populace, who followed her through the city with groans and hisses, so flurried her spirits, being different from that to which she had been always accustomed, that it brought on afresh the spasmodic affections. From this the Queen gradually recovered, and hopes were entertained that the disorder might be overcome. However, at an entertainment given by the Duke and Duchess of York, in June, her Majesty had a relapse; and from that period was unable to walk. At Buckingham House she experienced another attack on the 7th of July, and another on the 18th. By the advice of her physicians her Majesty was to have been removed to Windsor, but not being sufficiently recovered to bear the journey, she stopped at Kew Palace. The Queen

was desirous of being under the same roof with her Royal Consort; and throughout her tedious illness she indulged the hope of being able to leave Kew, which, on account of its marshy situation, was very unfavourable to her Majesty's complaint. The medical attendants were Sir Francis Millman, M. D. Sir Henry Hallford, M. D. Mr. Brande, apothecary, Arlington Street, and Mr. Keate, surgeon. Dr. Baillie was on one occasion called in, but no alteration in her treatment took place. In September her Majesty was dangerously ill: from this time till November the bulletins sometimes stated that her Majesty had a restless night, but more generally that she had been refreshed by a few hours sleep, (for opiates were continually administered); but they invariably concluded with—"there was no abatement of her complaint." It is remarkable that no prayer for the Queen was offered up in the churches; though that for the King (already mentioned) still continued to be read; and it is also remarkable that her Majesty had no spiritual consolation: but even in the most agonizing moments the Queen indulged the delusive hope that her dissolution was still distant.

About the 2d of November her Majesty was apprized of her danger for the first time, by a communication made by order of the Regent, and in as delicate a manner as possible. The Queen was considerably shocked at the intimation, and interrogated her physicians on the subject. On the 16th the bulletin stated:—

“ The Queen’s disease has not abated. Her Majesty has had some good sleep in the night.”

No extraordinary apprehensions were then entertained, either by her attendants or her physicians. Indeed so little was any important change expected, that at six o’clock in the afternoon Sir H. Halford’s carriage was ordered to convey him on his usual visit to the King and Princess Sophia, at Windsor, and the first messenger from Carlton House was returned without a report. The carriage of Sir Henry, however, had scarcely drawn up at the door of the palace, when her Majesty manifested such an increase of restlessness, that he was induced to delay his departure ; and, eventually, in about three quarters of an hour, the carriage was ordered back, and the journey postponed. At half-past seven the second messenger from Carlton House, who was still waiting at the palace, was dispatched with letters from the Princess Augusta and the physicians to the Prince Regent. Between nine and ten o’clock his Royal Highness, accompanied by the Duke of York, arrived at the palace, and had an immediate interview with the physicians. After their conference, his Royal Highness accompanied the Princesses to the chamber of her Majesty, and remained there a considerable time. All the worst symptoms of her Majesty’s disorder now developed themselves in succession, and as the most serious apprehensions were entertained, the Regent determined to spend the night at Kew.

At half-past nine o'clock the next morning the following bulletin—the first that had ever assumed any thing like a decided tone—was issued :—

“ *Kew Palace, Nov. 17.*

“ The Queen’s state last night was of great and imminent danger. Her Majesty continues very ill this morning.

(Signed)

“ F. MILLMAN.

“ H. HALFORD.”

The groom had not left the palace with the bulletin more than three-quarters of an hour when her Majesty became so much worse, that a second messenger was dispatched to Carlton House, to request the immediate attendance of his Royal Highness. Other messengers were sent to the Duchess of York, at Oatlands, the Duke of Sussex, at Tunbridge Wells, and the Princesses, at Windsor Castle. A mortification, which had taken place in her Majesty’s right heel, now threatened immediate dissolution: her respiration was laboriously performed, and the tension on the side was painful almost to suffocation. On the arrival of the Prince Regent and the Duke of York, Sir H. Halford had an audience of their Royal Highnesses in the drawing-room: the Princess Augusta and the Duchess of Gloucester were also present. When Sir Henry announced that there was no longer any hope of their August Parent surviving the paroxysm, they immediately hastened to attend her last moments: for more than half an hour they

remained surrounding the bed, in a state of anxious suspense—the Queen lying before them totally insensible ; and she had for some time breathed her last before the Princesses, absorbed in grief, had ceased supporting her. Sir Henry Halford at length announced that all was over—and they were led from the chamber by their Royal brothers.—The Queen died at twenty minutes past one o'clock, November the 17th, having survived her Royal Grand-daughter only a few days above a year ! It has been said that the Archbishop of Canterbury administered the sacrament to her on the morning of her death. It is true his Grace was sent for by the same messenger that was dispatched to the Prince Regent ; but his Grace was not at Lambeth, and some time elapsed before it was ascertained that he was attending some meeting in Great George Street, on the business of building the new churches. When found, his Grace had no carriage in waiting ; he was therefore compelled to send for a chaise, by which he reached Kew about half an hour after the demise of the Royal sufferer.

At three o'clock the following notification was issued at Carlton House, written on paper with wide black edges :—

“ Carlton House, Nov. 17.

“ Her Majesty expired at one o'clock this day, without a pain.”

Shortly after, the following letter, sent by Lord





No. 10. 1811.

THE OLD PALACE, KEW.
In which her Majesty died.

Engraved by J. Henry.

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